WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 1997

BUSINESS PAGE 20 **BONANZA FOR** CONSUMERS



ANALYSIS PAGE 18 THE GREENING OF NORTHERN IRELAND



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INDEPENDENT OFFER PAGE 15

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Peace in our children's time

Sarah Helm Mary Dejevsky **Christopher Bellamy** Defence Correspondent

Playing to the crowd, as always, Boris Yeltsin flamboyantly flourished a pen, keeping the world waiting just a few more moments, be-fore grinning broadly and signing oo the

The long-awaited Nato-Russia security pact, cumbersomely called the Founding Acton Mutual Relations, Co-operation and rity, was finalised at last. Seven years lato "stretched out the hand of friendto its Warsaw Pact enemy at a cerein Loodoo's Lancaster House, the n alliance yesterday offered Mr permanent partnership and a strate-

Yeltsin peo was raised once more. Athe treaty that puts a formal seal Hand of the Cold War and creates the ity of a security pact spanning the northern hemisphere from Van-Nadivostok, Jacques Chirac, the President, started to clap quietly. dane the line-up of 16 Nato leaders so suit and a ripple of applause swept the Elysée's Salles des Fêtes. oe lony Blair and Bill Clinton stopped

ish gossiping for a momeot to look ay tribute to what was possibly the nificant turning point yet in Nato-

Cour d'Honneur outside, red flicked in the breeze on the helmets French Presideot's Republicao the only uniforms on show oo this

"partnership and peace". Yeltsin was once again looking and for cameras which oearly smashed Elysée chandeliers as they swuog and for this next photo opportuoity the meot when Mr Yeltsin and Xavier lana, the Nato Secretary-General, sealed heir new pact with a kiss. It had been, from the start, one of those

cissing, hugging, patting, days, Anxieties were, of course, in the air. Mr Chirac had to try to put the French elechigh command by making a surprise an-oouocement about nuclear warheads, which oobody seemed to understand. And

low up" the new pact was already being hot-ly debated in the corridors. In the end, however, oo worries were allowed to taint this latest "oew dawn". world stage, the love-in with Mr Yeltsin be-

the question of whether Russia would "fol-



tions to the back of his mind. Mr Yeltsin History In sight: Tony Blair and Bill Clinton exchanging confidences during the signing of the Nato-Russia security pact at the Elysée

gan with a private hreakfast at the Russian residence. Over hlinis and smoked salmon; Mr Yeltsin flattered the new Prime Minister, telling him he had "good eyes, the right mind, the right age and good experi-ence". In fact, added Mr Yeltsin: "I believe Great Britain is in the right hands." Mr Blair accepted his invitation to visit Moscow lat-For Mr Blair, in his first outing ooto the er this year when a joint declaration on fighting international crime will be signed.

And the Foreign Office announced that as part of the new spirit of goodwill, a British drugs liaisoo officer will be attached to the

Moscow embassy from oext month. At the Elysée, Mr Clinton, leaning on a stick, and Mr Yeltsin, looking frail, took. the "pursuit of prestige by oatioo states be their seats for the speeches. "I will be candid with you, reaching agreement has not been easy," said Mr Yeltsin. But, he said, the partnership "is a victory for reasoo".

Mr Chirac declared the deal was "built on the ruins of World War Two - from oow oo we can hanish old reflexes and help develop mutual trust." Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, said that never again must

allowed to bring about war". The British Prime Minister struck a more personal note. "My father fought in the last great European war. I was a child of the

Cold War era, raised amid the constant fear of conflict ... no such fear exists today". It was Mr Blair and Mr Clinton who featured most promineotly in the final photo opportunity as the Presideot gave the British Prime Minister an eothusiastic thumbs-up.

Mr Clinton's triumphal day was marred by oews from Washington, where the Supreme Court gave the go-ahead to a court case brought by Paula Jones, a former state

Ours is the first generation able to contemplate the possibility that we may live our entire lives without going to war or sending our children to war. ?

Tony Blair

6 This NATO will work with Russia, not against it ... these are new times. ... The veil of hostility between East and West is lifted. >

Bill Clinton

• Everything that is aimed at countries present here, all of those weapons. are going to have their warheads removed. 🤊

employee in the President's home state of Arkansas, who has made sexual harassment allegations against Mr Clinton. The possihility that a President could face sex charges threateoed to overshadow a trip from which he had been expected to emerge as world statesman par excellence. Presidency at risk, page 2 Cold War spymaster escapes jail, page 12

Clarke leads, Lilley coming up outside

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Just three dozen Tory MPs hold the key to the Conservative leadership contest, with Keo-oeth Clarke in the lead and Peter Lilley coming up as the dark-horse challenger. An Independent survey of

the six campaign groups shows that more than one-third of the 164-strong electorate of Tory MPs has so far come out in support of a cootender, with big-name sponsors such as Michael Har ltine being held in reserve. Campaign managers want to out the amouncement of the profile backers, as the our Party did with its dibrity catches during the in foo campaign.

But The Independent has established that in addition to the six conteoders - Mr Clarke, Stepbeo Dorrell, William Hague, Michael Howard, Mr Lilley, and John Redwood - 53 MPs have so far publicly declared their support.

In addition to that, there are been identified within the campaign groups but is being beld back, either for inctical reasons or because the MPs do oot wish their views to be made known to their local parties.

So far, Mr Clarke's campaign has the public backing of five former ministers, but his supporters say that they have identified the "certain" votes of

another 41 MPs; giving him a total of 47 votes so far.

Under the first-round rules for 10 June, a candidate needs a majority of those entitled to vote -33 - and a majority of 15 per cent of those entitled to vote - at least 25 votes - over the runner-up. As things stand, Mr Clarke is leading the field, but he falls short of the 83-vote hurdle. However, his supporters be-



another 27 whose support has lieve that if he can get between 60-70 votes on 10 June, he could manage to get the extra votes needed to win a secondround ballot on 17 June, when 83 votes are required to win.

Certainly, the former Chanceilor can expect the six votes that will go to Stephen Dorrell in the first round, but other camps doubt Mr Clarke's ability to make further headway.

If Mr Clarke does oot get 60 votes in the first round, or if doubt sets in, then MPs are expected to start switching in search of the winner. At that point, Mr Lilley could begin to pick up significant support from

across the party.
One potential eventual Lilley voter said vesterday that he was "John Major without the charisma", but he preferred him to the right-wing alternatives of Michael Howard and John

William Hague, who began as an early favourite in the leadership race, appears to have badly blotted his copybook with his criticism of the "constantly shifting fudge" of John Major's leadership of the party. He is unlikely to be forgiveo for that blunder - critical with an electorate that is "so small but per-

fectly formed". The calculations being made by the different camps yesterday showed that there were possibly more than two dozen genuine "don't knows" or "won't says" left, with a further 10 MPs floating hetween candidates.

That critical mass of about three dozen MPs - including former ministers Nicholas Soames, Alan Clark, Cheryl Gillan, David Heathcoat-Amory, and Robert Key, not to mention John Major - will decide the result. But for the momeot, oo one knows where bert Burden of the Northum-they are heading. berland Fusiliers, Joseph Byers

British firing squads executed boy soldiers

Steve Boggins and **Anthony Bevins**

At least five of the 307 British soldiers senteoced to death during the First World War were under age but were still executed by army firing squads, it

emerged yesterday.
As the Government came under increasing pressure to grant a blanket pardoo to the men many of whom are now believed to bave been suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder details came to light of how the

boys met their death. Records suppressed for 75 years show that three of the 307 were just 17 when they were shot for desertion. The records of a further 85 meo do not show their ages, adding to the un-certainty over the fairness of their courts martial.

As reported in yesterday's *Independent*, John Reid, Minister for the Armed Forces, is reviewing the case for a pardon following the success of a cam-paign by Andrew Mackinlay, Labour MP for Thurrock, who believes most of those put to death were little more than confused, frightened young men.

Research by another campaigner, war veteran John Hipkin, 72, shows that the three boy soldiers who were shot at 17 in contravention of the 1879 British Army Act - were Herare heading berland Fusiliers; Joseph Byers Campaign action, page 6 of the Royal Scots Fusiliers; and

Herbert Morris who had trav-> elled from Jamaica with the British West Indies Regiment. Two others - William Hunter

of the Loyal N. Lancashire Reg iment, and James Crozier of the Royal Irish Rifles - were shot at 18 but it is believed their of feoces were committed when they were 17. In any case, noone under the age of 19 should have been serving overseas at

* THE INDEPENDENT Labour pardon for war cowards

Yesterday's exclusive story in the *Independent*

the time. Burden was just 17 years and 3 months when he was executed for desertion. At his court martial, there was no-one to speak for him because his batallion had been so decimated that all his friends and colleagues were dead, in hospital or transferred to other units.

Byers, the first under-age soldier to be shot in the war, enlisted oo 20 November 1914, was shipped to France on 5 December 1914 after two weeks' basic training and was execut-

ed for desertion on 6 Feb 1915. Hunter had run away at 17 after falling in love with a French girl. At his court martial, Lt Gen Henry Wilson recommended mercy but he was overruled. Wilson later became an MP and was executed by the IRA.

Crozier was recruited at 16 by an officer, Lt Col Frank Crozi er, who was amused at finding a would-be recruit sharing his name. He promised Crozier's mother that he would look af-ter her son. However, Lt. Crozier later signed the boy's death warrant for desertion.

These were just boys and the army knew it, but they just wanted to make an example of deserters," said Mr Hipkin, whose own father lied about his age in order to fight. "God only knows how they could look into the face of a boy and seotence him to death.

The historian Julian Putkowski, co-author of Shot at Dawn, said: "I believe there were probably many more boys who were executed. Many lied about their ages and eveo their names, but none of them should have been there before the age of 19."
"What is more disturbing is

that in some of these cases, the records show that the officers knew the men they were sentencing to death were too young and should simply bave been

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THE SROADSHEET

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Former nurse arrested over hospital deaths

A former nurse was yesterday arrested in connection with the deaths of four people at a hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Kathleen Atkinson, 47, from Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, was a nursing sister in the intensive care unit at the Royal Victoria Infirmary. She worked at the hospital for 17 years, and was being questioned about the deaths of four patients between 1991 and 1995. A spokeswoman for the hospital said: "At this stage the trust cannot comment further other than to stress it is co-operating fully with the police investigation." A police spokeswoman said: "We can confirm that a 47-year-old woman has been arrested and is being questioned in connection with [the] deaths."

Mowlam in talks with loyalists

Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is to have talks today with leaders of the loyalist orders in a new move to ease tensions over disputed parades in Northern Ireland this summer. Meetings have been arranged with the Apprentice Boys in Londonderry and the Orange Order in Belfast. All sides fear trouble over a number of contentious marches through nationalist areas.

Cabinet-maker wins £12m jackpot



Last week a cabinet-maker, this week a multi-millionaire. David Ashcroft, a 30-year-old Liverpudlian, was confirmed yesterday as the single winner last weekend of the £12.3m National Lottery jackpot. He realised he had won the £12,353,263 fortune while at home watching the draw on television, and slept with the ticket under his pillow until he could collect his prize. True to new-millionaire tradition, Mr Ashcroft stressed the money will not change him. He wants to buy new equipment for his

workshop, and treat his relatives. He set up in business at 17 with the help of a £1,000 bursary from the Prince of Wales Trust and said the trust might also hencfit from his new-found wealth. Matthew Brace

Policeman jailed for hiding evidence

A police constable who concealed vital evidence in a murder inquiry to protect his son, a prime suspect, was jailed for four years yesterday. Edmund Ross. 46, an officer with Northern Constabulary for 23 years, was found guilty of deliberate hindering investigations into the murder in Orkney of an Indian waiter, and of attempting to defeat the ends of justice. Shamsuddin Mahmood, 26, was shot dead while working in a Kirkwall restaurant on 2 June 1994. Mr Ross's son, Michael, 18, is still a suspect in the investigation. A spokesman for Mr Ross's legal team said they were considering an appeal.

McAliskey fights for daughter's bail

Bernadette McAliskey, the former Irish nationalist MP, yesterday renewed her campaign for her daughter Roisin to be granted unconditional ball while the German authorities continue extradition proceedings against her. Ms McAliskey. 25, gave hirth to a baby daughter. Loinnir - meaning ray of sunshine through dark clouds - at the Whittington Hospital, north London, on Monday. She is wanted by Germany over the IRA mortar-bomb attack on a British army base at Osnabrück last summer. Patricia Wynn Davies

Picture clues to shipwreck mystery

Experts are studying thousands of underwater pictures to try to solve a 17-year-old mystery surrounding the largest Brilish

merchant ship ever lost at sea. The images of the 169,000-ton bulk earrier MV Derbyshire were taken during a United Kingdom Government-EC sponsored expedition to the site of the wreck in the Pacific this spring. The Teesside built Derbyshire went down in a typhoon off Japan in 1980 with the loss of its 44 strong British crew. An official inquiry into the disaster in 1987 said the weather was probably to blame. But lamilies of the crew, trade unions and shipping expens have long argued that the disaster was caused by structural delects in the vessel.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

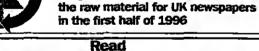
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Paula Jones: Allegations are easily understood and not implausible (Photograph: AFP)

Paula Jones given clearance for lawsuit against Clinton

n a judgment that was said by legal expens to put Bill Clinton's presidency seriously at risk for the first time, the US Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the President cannot postpone a sexual harassment suit brought against him just because he is president. The ruling means that Paula Jones, a former employee of Mr Clinton's home state of Arkansas, may pursue her lawsuit against him for damages.

Ms Jones claims that during a conference in May 1991, Mr Clinton - then governor of Arkansas - called her to a hotel room, made sexual advances, and invited her to perform oral sex. When she refused, saying that she was "not that kind of girl", she says Mr Clinton told her: "You are smart. Let's keep this be-

Ms Jones has given detailed, and consistent, accounts of the meeting, which include the graphic ref-erence to "distinguishing characteristics in Mr Clinton's genital area". Her presence in the hotel room is confirmed by one of Mr Clinton's bodyguards, and she is said to have other witnesses prepared to testify in her

Mr Clinton has consistently denied all the allegations and says he has no recollection of ever meeting Ms Jones. Despite this, his lawyers almost reached an out-of-court settlement with Ms Jones two years ago.

The case has long been thought to be the most poterrially damaging of the many scandals and alleged scandals in which Mr Clinton and his wife, Hillary, are embroiled. The rights and wrongs of the Whitewater land deal are so complicated that they have failed to catch the public imagination, while the allegations of illegal funding of the Democratic Party have falled to Implicate the Clintons directly. Ms Jones's allegations are, in contrast, easily understood and not implausi-

The only part of yesterday's judgment that could be used to defer a lawsuit was the view from Justice John Paul Stevens that a delay might be justified "by considerations that do not require the recognition of any constitutional Immunity. The high respect that is owed to the office of the chief executive, though not justifying a rule of categorical immunity, is a matter that should inform the conduct of the entire proceeding."

Opinion was divided yesterday on the possible out-come if the case was not deferred. The most dramatic forecast was that the case would come to court and Mr Clinton would have to decide whether to testify or not - with all the inferences that would be drawn from a refusal. The question that would then arise would be whether a lost lawsuit could force the President's resignation given the public mood wherever sex and politics mix. Mary Dejevsky - Washington

New baby for the Mother of **Parliaments**

he Labour media machine mid be taking a breather after its election push but it was back on prolific form yesterday when it seized on a photo opportunity with one of its new MPs.

A press release headlined "New Labour, New Baby" announced the news that Ruth Kelly, MP for Bolton West, had given birth to a son, just e month after winning her seat. Ms Kelly had the baby on Monday night at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel.

The Health Minister Tessa lowell was first to send a congratulatory note to her on "another New Labour gain" and said the birth gave a pold and positive message to '3ritain's women. "Ruth will be a great inspiration to other young mothe and t am sure that she will remember that it is only to our

children that we are irreplaceable. "Around the House of Commons, Ruth will be neither short of advice nor willing arms to hold the baby. A baby around the House will be a great force for modernising the Palace of Westminster," she added.



in at 7lbs 11ozs and a spokesman for the Royal London said both mother and baby (above) were doing well. Ms Kelly and her husband Derek have named their

first child Eamonn Frederick Gadd. Ms Kelly is not the first woman to give birth while an MR Among others is the former nationalist MP Bernadette Devlin, whose daughter Roisin McAliskey - on remand in connection with an IRA attack on e British barracks in Osnabruck, Germany, last summer herself dave birth on Monday. Ms Kelly is known as a high-flier, having previously worked at the

Bank of England and the Guardian

Matthew Brace

Polar women on top of the world

The first all-female expedition to reach the North Pole celebrated with champagne last night at the end of a 1,000-kilometre marathon across shifting sea ice. The four-member British team,

the last of five who have taken part in the relay expedition, planted their flag at 4.45am after completing their 230-km leg in 10 days. Spokeswoman Mary Nicholson said: "They are just Jubilant. I think they ran the last stretch."

Three aircraft, carrying base camp members and families of the four women, were on their way to pick them up from the Pole last night. The women expect to arrive back at their northern Canadian base at Resolute Bay during the late afternoon today. They will return to London at the weekend.

The four members who reached the North Pole were expedition leader Caroline Hamilton, e 32vear-old film financier. Zoe Hudson, 30, a physiotherapist, Lucy Roberts, 27, e journalist and designer, all from London, and Porn Oliver, 45, a film financier from High Wycombe. They were accompanied by expedition guides Math McNair and Denise Martin, who travelled the whole way.

Louise Jury

LAW AND ORDER

Ulster policing under fire from human rights group

An end to the emergency regime in Northern Ireland is called for and each to the emergency regime in Northern freathd is called for today by Human Rights Watch/Helsinki, the international human rights group, in a detailed report.

The report highlights four areas of policing that raise "urgent human rights concern" - the wide powers enjoyed by the Royal

Ulster Constabulary, the policing of last summer's marching season, the dramatic rise in paramilitary punishment assaults and persistent allegations of collision between members of the security forces and loyalist paramilitary groups. The report says that police concentration on the suppression of political violence has led to the exclusion of traditional police functions in some areas, leading paramilitary organisations to assume a quasi-policing role.

To Serve Without Favor, Policing, Human Rights and Accountability; available from Publications Department, Human Rights Watch, 485 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY10017; \$22.50 **Patricia Wynn Davies**

SOCIETY

Changing face of Britain

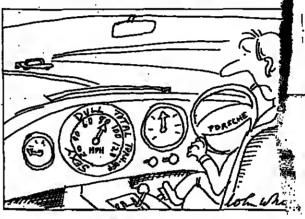
Changes in British society are making people less trusting, putting more pressure on their time and generally making life more difficult according to a major new study.

But while we are concerned about the changes in society we are also willing to embrace even bigger changes, such as the provision of public services by private companies, if it means a return to traditional community values. A total of 81 per cent of Britons believe a job for life is a thing of the past, while 58 per cent believe life is more difficult now than in the past, according to research by the University of Leeds for the Independent Television Commission and advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather.

"There is a widespread perception that times are changing faster and faster," said Shiela Byfield, business development director of Ogilvy & Mather. "And at the same time that life is uncertain and pressured."

MOTORING

Boy racers lose in sex stakes



Men driving quickly are a turn off for the opposite sex, but may A female sports car driver makes one in two men melt and s. vehicles make an older woman more attractive, the survey by mretailers Cowie found. Despite the fact that Porsche was voted it. sexiest car, fewer than one in ten women agreed that an older ma could reclaim his appeal via that route. The least sexy car was the Lada followed by the Robin Reliant. "Our research showed that most women would rather invest in new designer clothes or cosmetic surgery and few are aware that for them, a sports car could be the ultimate fashion accessory," said Cowie's Julie Jobling.

Old people suffering maltreatment

Elderly people living in residential homes are being strapped into their chairs, force-fed and roughly handled according to a survey

The darker side of residential care is revealed in the survey by the Alzheimer's Disease Society which found one in ten carers said ir relatives had been mistreated or neglected and more than ball said they were not consulted about the use of drugs to control the old person's dementia. The report, based on almost 1,500 replies to a questionnaire, found most homes provided highquality care which drew praise and gratitude from carers. But more than 150 examples of abusive treatment were described, most involving neglect or inappropriate treatment. Harry Cayton, chief executive of the society, said the cases of ill treatment were o matter of grave concern and called for tougher inspections and new guidance on the use of drugs in homes.

CULTURE

Poetry puts listeners in bloom

William Wordsworth's Daffodils beat Rudyard Kipling's If by just four votes in a listeners' poll to find the nation's favourite poem, Classic FM said yesterday. The 650 poems nominated by listeners to Mike Read's Breakfast Show ran the gamut from high art to low brow. John Betjeman was the most nominated poet, with 31 nominations, ahead of Kipling (27), Shakespeare and Tennyson (both 23). The top 10 was as follows - 1: Daffodits, Wordsworth: 2: If, Kipling; 3: The Listeners, Walter De La Mare: 4: Home Thoughts From Abroad. Robert Browning; 5: The Lady Of Shalon. Tennyson; 6: Cargoes, John Masefield; 7: Ode To Auturn, Keats; 8: The Soldier, Rupert Brooke; 9=: Sea Fever, John Masefield, Remember Me, Christina Rossetti.

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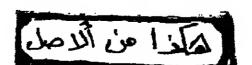
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an rights group

news

Stephen and Russell are gay, disabled and want a baby. Do they have a right to ask a surrogate to bear their child?



Seeking family ties: Russell Conton and his partner Stephen, who want to father a child of their own

Photograph: Martin Rickett/Newsteam

A gay male couple, both of whom are disabled, declared their determination to have a child of their own yesterday despite opposition from doctors,

social workers and health managers. Russell Conlon, 39, and his partoer Stephen, 32, are seeking a leshian couple prepared to eoter a surrogacy arrangement to provide them with a baby, after being turned down as foster carers by their local social services department. In return they say they would provide the sperm for the lesbian couple to have a baby of their

The case triggered calls from Conservative family campaigners for the law on surrogacy to be tightened and from doctors who said clarificatioo was needed of what kinds of infertility treatment the National Health Service should fund.

Ministers are reviewing surrogacy arrangements after a case involving a Dutch couple went wrong when the English surrogate mother they had paid £13,000 to carry the haby chose to keep it.

The latest case will increase pressure for changes to be made, but ministers are understood to be reluctant to venture into an area regarded as an ethical minefield.

The Human Fertilisation and Emhryology Authority said the level of expenses paid to surrogate mothers required examination, but the law as otherwise working well.

Mr Conlon, who "married" his gay

partner last year in a ceremooy lessed by a priest after an on/off relationship lasting 10 years, told The Independent yesterday of his lifelong

desire for a child. "It would be worth more to me than winning £10m on the lottery. We can give a child as much love, care, understanding and discipline as any heterosexual couple can," he said. "We are married in the eyes of God, we have a marriage certificate, we wear rings and our mar-riage was hlessed by the church. Whether you are single, married, dis-

abled, straight or gay you still have the right to try for a child." They have been answering advertisemeots in the gay press from les-bian couples seeking gay males and offering "munially beneficial arrange-ments" - the code for sperm donation. However, they are both living on state benefits and admitted that they could oot afford to pay thousands of pounds in expenses.

that he and his partner had had no luck so far hut remained hopeful. "If we could share a baby with a les-

hian couple that could be just as good. They could have it three or four nights a week and we could have it two or three nights. Then we would go through the midnight feeds and changing nappies that are part of what having a baby is about," he said. The couple, from oorth Manches-

ter, applied to the Manchester social services department to adopt or foster a child, but were turned down oo the grounds of their disability. Mr Conlon suffers from an inherited brittle bone disease and Stephen, who did not wish to give his second oame, has epilepsy following a car accideot two years ago.

They are oow applying to the

placing older children with disabili-

Medical organisations called for guidance through the moral maze raised by such cases. Although medical treatment might not be occessary - leshian couples can artificially inseminate themselves - if it were helping a gay couple have a child might not be construed as health care because they were incapable of conceiving under normal circum-

Valerie Riches, director of Family and Youth Coocern, said the surrogacy law oeeded tighteniog to exclude gay couples. "The situatioo has got completely out of hand. They don't seem to be thinking of the rights of the child to be born to a man and a woman so be or she has got a solid base to start from," she said. Earlier, speaking on BBC Radio 4's Londoo-based charity, Pareots id base to start from," she said.

Today programme, Mr Conloo said for Children, which specialises in Health department officials are

arguing.

known to believe that the only way of strengthening the law would be to follow the Uoited States route of legally hinding contracts, backed by elaborate systems of counselling and consect, which impose a legal duty on the surrogate mother to give up the child following delivery.

This runs counter to Uoited Kingdom law, which is founded on the principle of a woman's right to choose and accounts for ministers' reluctance to tinker with it,

A spokesman for the Department of Health denied yesterday that any major overhaul of the surrogacy law was planned. "A lot of people know that ministers bave promised to look at the existing law to see if it needs change and are thrusting their agendas on them," be said.

Leading article, page 17 Paul Vallely, page 19

Epistles at dawn: St Paul takes the pulpit test

It was the hottest literary ticket in town. Five hundred people were expected to turn out last night to witness two authors take each other to task over whether Jesus or Saint Paul was the founder of Christianity.

AN Wilson, the writer and journalist, and the Very Rev Tom Wright, Dean of Lichfield and mainstream academic theologian, were coming face to face for the first time to air their polar positions on Paul.

The hour-long confrontation over the historic foundations of the Church, billed as the "Epis-tles at Dawn" debate, at St James's Church in Picadilly, was was a long time coming, according to Dr Wright, a former tutor in New Testameot Studies at Oxford. Cambridge and McGill Universities. "I have been looking forward to meeting and dehating these issues with Andrew Wilsoo for five years," he said. But Mr Wilson, whose pre-

vious book, Jesus, caused a sensation when it was published in 1992, denied he had earlier refused to rise to Dr Wright's challeoge. "I've only been waiting for four weeks," he said. "I hadn't realised it was a long-expected event - like the coming of the Messiah."

The theological gauntlet had been laid down by Mr Wilson, once a prospective Anglican ordinand. To him, Jesus is simply a minor "Galilean exorcist", an unimportant Jew whose family did not believe he was divine. In his book, Paul: The Mind

of the Apostle, published earlier this year, he argues it was Paul, oot Jesus, who inspired the movement which became Christianity. He describes Paul as a visionary who transformed Jesus into a mythological hero.

He has accused Dr Wright of "absurd literalism". The problem, be feels, is that "Christian fundameotalists like Paul John-soo or the Dean of Lichfield simply dare oot face up to the fact that the childish stories they were told in their Sunday schools are unbelievable to the majority of people."

Dr Wright seized the theological high ground. Popular and radical new interpretations of Wilson's, do not have the scholarship to be historically credible, he insisted. While Paul made Christianity accessible to those beyood its original Jewish cootext, be did not "re-in-

vent" Jesus in the process. In his book, he accuses Mr Wilson of "wandering in the foggy foothills of the discussion. while far above them, clear and striking, stand the peaks and glaciers, the cliffs and ledges. which constitute the real high ground of Pauline thought." Mr Wilson said: "I doo't think you have to spend 25 years reading St Paul's epistles. You cao read them in a day.'

Father gives up fight to halt abortion



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Lynn Kelly: Free to decide

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Pro-choice campaigners pledged to lobby for abortion on demand. yesterday after a father abandoned his uphill fight to prevent his wife from aborting their un-

James Kelly, 28, of Edin-burgh, said that he had dropped plans to petition the House of Lords to appeal against Saturday's decision by three Scottish appeal judges he-cause everything had "gone crazy" and he had lost his job and home.

But his attempt to stop his es-

tranged wife, Lynn, 21, having a termination after the acrimonious break-up of their marriage still produced angry reactions from pro-choice activists who condemned the delay and distress she had

suffered. The Abortion Law Reform Association was yesterday cootacting MPs who have drawn places in the Private Members' Bill ballot to urge them to in-troduce legislation giving statu-tory status to abortion oo request. Only the top six in the ballot have any chance of their measures becoming law, but the pro-choice Conservative MP

for Billericay, Teresa Gorman,

Mrs Kelly, by now 14 weeks' pregnant, had said over the weekend that she might now have the child rather than endure the trauma of an induced labour, prompting an increasingly pressurised Mr Kelly to suggest that she ought to have the abortion after all rather than having an "unloved" child.

John Crabbe, of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children in Scotland, appealed to Mrs Kelly yesterday to coutinue with the pregnancy. After Mr Kelly's plans to petition the law lords oext Monday were formally abandoned at the Court of Sessioo in Edinburgh yesterday afternoon, Mrs Kelly's solicitor, Beverley Johnson, said: "She is now able to make a choice whether or not she is able to proceed with the preg-

Despite a protracted legal battle involving five separate bearings which delayed Mrs Kelly's originally planned termination by 11 days, Mr Kelly's chances of success were always slender. When an Oxford studeot tried to force his girlfriend to have a baby in 1987, the law lords lost no time

in rejecting his petition to

the Court of Sessioo judges still continued an injunction barring Mrs Kelly from abortion pending a further hearing on the progress of the petitioo to the

appeal a ruling by the English

Court of Appeal, giving the

clearest indication that there

was oo poiot of law worth

ever. Despite ruling that Scot-tish law - like English law - gave

the foctus no right to continue

to exist in the mother's womh,

Uncertainties remain, how-

Last summer, the pro-life Society for the Protection of Unborn Children obtained a temporary High Court injunction to stop a woman aborting a twin, although the abortion had already taken place so the

legal actioo came too late. Jane Roe, the campaign director of the Abortioo Law Reform Association, said yesterday: "We are very concerned that cases like this could keep being brought by vindictive partners to harass and delay

To preveot a similar legal challenge the law should be changed to bring it in line with reality - that the only practical, acceptable option is to give womeo the right to choose."



Britain comes clean on nerve gas

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

nal – poison gas, including nerve gas - in 1960, the Government disclosed yesterday.

But until 1978, small amounts of nerve gas were made at Nancekuke in Cornwall, when it housed the Process Research Division of the Por- sarin and VX. ton Down Chemical Defence

nearly rearmed with chemical weapons in 1963. Although the Nancekuke site was, like the one Britain largely disposed of its of-fensive chemical warfare arse-m Wiltshire, meant to belp deremaining site at Porton Down velop defences against chemical attack, some of the work done there was used by the United States to develop offensive chemical weapons as late as 1964. The chemicals made there included the nerve agents

The 240-page report is

ganisation for the Prohibition of said that a very small quantity was Chemical Weapons (OPCW) as also kept at the Royal Military now required by the interna-tional Chemical Weapons Con-vention (CWC), which came into force on 29 April, and to

aso kept at the respansion of the interna-tional Chemical Weapons Con-ham, Oxfordshire.

The report reveals that more than 40,000 tons of chemical which Britain is a signatory.

Now, Britain maintains a "single small-scale facility" at Porton Down, run by the Defence Eval-uation and Research Agency. which is allowed up to one ton chemical weapons in hattle of chemical agent to help develagainst another. After the war, op defences under the treaty, al- captured German bombs conthough the Ministry of Defence taining nerve gas - a German

use and as weapons. In 1956, the Cabinet decided to halt production of nerve gas and most

of the chemical weapon stocks were destroyed. warfare agents - phosgene, In 1963, the Cabinet recommustard gas and tear gas-were manufactured during the Secmended that Britain reacquire ond World War, although none offensive chemical weapons for of the major combatants used retaliation in case the Soviet union and its allies used them. but, the report says, "for a va-riety of reasons including eco-nomic pressures and a political

invention – were brought to Britain, both for experimental weapons, the recommendation was never implemented.

Britain tabled the first draft

Chemical Weapons Treaty in 1976. ft signed the current CWC on 13 January 1993, and ratified it a year ago. The convention obliges signatories to re-lease details going back to 1946. ft reveals that the British stocks. including half a million 25lb artillery shells filled with mustard gas and 58,000 phosgene and mustard gas 500lb bombs for the

Royal Air Force, were largely obsolete, compared with the nerve agents the Germans bad developed. Also kept in store were 71,000 German bombs filled with the nerve agent tabun, which were incompatible

with RAF aircraft. The report lists all the sites in Britain where chemical weapons were manufactured and stored. It also reveals there was a Chemical Defence Research Establishment in India, closed before the country's in-

hot-climate trials were carried out in Nigeria in the early Fifties, and in Malaya. The Chemical Weapons Con-

vention allows each signatory country a single, small-scale facility, which in Britain's case is Porton Down. It says that experiments must be carried out in small-reaction vessels which cannot operate continuously, and it limits their capacity. Britain's, the convention says, is 160 litres.

Forget about mugging - it's simply not cricket

Kim Sengupta

Heaven knows what WG Grace would have made of all this. The talk was of the finer points of cricket - and gangstas, crack cocaine, stabbings, and police harassment. But it was the youth of England who were full of tales of drugs, mayhem, and street battles, while 13-year-old Ruben Campos from down 10wn LA twirled his Gray-Nicholls bat and demonstrated the perfect hook.

The extraordinary scenes took place yesterday at the Lisson Green estate in north-west London, the place where some of the gang which murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence allegedly hung out, and the place that sparked dozens of tabloid headlines about the ter-

ror of teen mobsters.
The United States contingent, Compton Homies & The Popz, from California, were here to tell their English counterparts forget muggings, take

up cricket instead". Since cricket was introduced to the American youths in an experimental scheme, it bas been dramatic effect for the good, according to the police, welfare workers, and teachers in Los Angeles, California, Kids heading for the tribal street gangs bad found another focus, as well as more stability. The team of 11- to 25-year-olds are on a tour of England playing local teams. and, they say, trying to spread the message of non-violence.

head at the age of 18 when he got accidentally caught up in a shooting. His son said vesterday: "It just happened to be my dad, it could have happened to anyone. My mother was very wor-ried that something like that can happen to me, but since I've taken up cricket, f'm just keeping out of trouble ... Life is crazy out there, although it's getting bet-ter for some of us. A lot of English kids meeting here are a lot older than me, so they may not listen. But all f say is forget all the hassle and the fighting." Fabio Carvajal, 18, who lives

in Lisson Green, cannot understand what the Americans see in cricket. He much prefers basketball. He said to the LA boys: "It's bad here, we have got a lot of crime, we have got drugs, and we get the police hassling us all the time. Is it really that bad over there? We see these things on TV, but it can't really be that bad."

Theo Hayes, from Compton LA replied quietly: "ft's exactly like that. It's totally mindless. You have got a nice cap on, they'll sboot you just to

Theo, 24, one of the oldest players, said: 'f used to get jumped on all the time by the Is street gang, they were Mexicans. But since I started playing cricket I just keep out of their way ... "It may seem strange hut cricket does help to build character. As we say over there in baseball you get three chances before you are out, in



Bowled over: Young Los Angeles cricketers visiting Lisson Green Estate, north-west London; they say playing the game keeps them away from gangs in LA Photograph: John Voos

in an innings, so you've got to cease that chance." The cricket initiative in Los Angeles was organised by Theo's father, Ted Haves, 46, an activist for the bomeless who

Haber, an Englishwoman, and a producer on the cult movie Blade Runner. She is one of the organisers of the tour. The team has raised its own funds for travelling, although local once lived on the streets. He was charities stepped in to belp.

Cricket World magazine, watching the encounter yesterday, said: "Isn't it ironic that those of us who know cricket know that it is a civilising influence the world over. But if you said that you'd he seen as some strange

fect this has had on these Amer-

Bill Johnson, a 17-year-old hlack youth who lives in the area, said he knew friends involved in north London gangs. He said: "ft's getting worse

gang called the Lisson Green Posse who are Bengali kids, and there are a few other gangs as well. ... it will just get like LA

the way things are going."
But perbaps not for a while. Standing in the warm spring

"In LA, where I live, you can't go anywhere without hearing police sirens, police helicopters, and often shots heing fired.

"But listen to that we're standing in the centre of London and I can bear birds.

Girl refused transplant 'had signs of drug abuse'

A teenager who died from ec-stasy-induced liver failure after being refused a transplant showed classic signs of adolescent drug abuse, a psychiatrisi claimed in court yesterday.

But an inquiry into the death of Michelle Paul, 15, heard this "psychosocial" history was not the overriding reason for her being refused a new liver.

And doctors refused to bow to pressure from Michelle's sultant psychiatrist at the Edinfamily by listing her for trans-plant because it would have day of the fatal accident inquiry been a form of "appeasement". Michelle, from Aberdeen. died in November 1995, 23 days after taking half a tablet of eestasy at a rave near her home. She had been flown to the liver transplant unit at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary from Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Her mother.

Carolann, claimed a moral de-cision based on Michelle's background was taken by a surgeon at the unit, Dr Hilary Sanfey, to refuse a transplant. When she gave evidence, Dr Sanfey denied this, claiming the teenager had been too ill to undergo what was a very complicated operation. She had suffered irreversible

brain damage. George Masterton, 45, a conat Aberdeen Sheriff Court that he had been asked to give advice on Michelle's background and any problems that might

arise after a transplant. Although he was unable to interview Michelle because she was unconscious, he said the problems she was having at

sic signs of an adolescent drug abuser". However, he pointed out that her family background was very stable and described her mother's own history of

drug abuse as a "red herring". Dr James Garden, a surgeon at the liver transplant unit, told the inquiry: "The decision not to transplant was based on the medical factors."

The final witness to the inquiry. Professor Paul McMaster, director of the transplant unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, said Michelle's case had raised major issues which would have to be discussed within the medical profession. He told the inquiry: see this fundamentally as a clinical, medical judgement

rather than a moral one.

DAILY POEM

October 29, 1991: 4 PM, outside Saratoga Springs

By Sandra M Gilbert

My shadow, facing east, is twice my size, a long dull path through glittering, frost-bitten blades of grayish green. A hasty blaze of cold October sun gives it a sudden outline, und there, on the chilly ground, I guess I am. a thinning blurring shape that might be a wome with a walking stick tuo, really a cane) and a dim sort of knob at the top - a head, if it's human!

I move, and this vague road slides forward too, weaving a little as I do. trying to hide under dragging branches, shadow under shadow, then in a clearing pulling into the lead as if to prove that at this late hour I have nothing to track but the dark drift of myself.

This poem comes from the poet and critic Sandra Gilbert's fifth collection. Ghost Volcano, published by W W Norton (£8.95). The volume's centrepeice. "Widow's Walk", is a sequence of poems in memory of her late husband, Elliot Glibert, whose death as a result of medical negligence she described in the prose mem-oir Wrongful Death (also published by Norton).

Saudis promise murder case nurses a fair trial

The Saudi Arabian ambassador in London said yesterday that it emerged that the nurses had controversial confessions made by two nurses accused of murder would be disregarded in

Dehorah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan are alleged to have confessed to murdering Australian nurse Yvonne Gilford at the Saudi medical complex where all three worked. They subsequently withdrew their confessions, saying they were made after policemen stripped and threatened to rape them.

Dr Ghazi Algosaibi said the court would not uphold a confession unless given freely in front of the court. "All earlier confessions will be ignored. If the two girls are innocent they

have nothing to fear," he said in a written statement yesterday. The amhassador spoke after

offered to contribute to a trust fund in honour of Ms Gilford, to escape the death penalty. This would correspond with Sharia law, which allows relatives of the murder victim to choose "blood money" in place of the murderers' execution.

Lawyers acting for the two nurses were keen to stress the offer was not an admission of guilt. Salah Al-Hejailan, speaking on Independent Radio News, said: "They are totally innocent and they are not seek-ing forgiveness. However, hav-ing said that, they are willing to actively participate to speak on or advocate the interests of a fund for the memory of

On Sunday, the Saudi court was adjourned for three weeks so lawyers could make a plea for clemency. The only people who can save the two women's lives. are relatives of Ms Gilford.

Out of apparent rejuctance to see the nurses executed, the judges adjourned the trial for three weeks so lawyers could appeal to the Gilford family. The judge at Sunday's hearing was said to have "expressly and explicitly asked why the mur-dered nurse's family would wish to take advantage of the death penalty when it does not exist in their culture. Frank Gilford, her brother has spoken of the "unbearable strain" of having to decide whether the two nurses should live or die.

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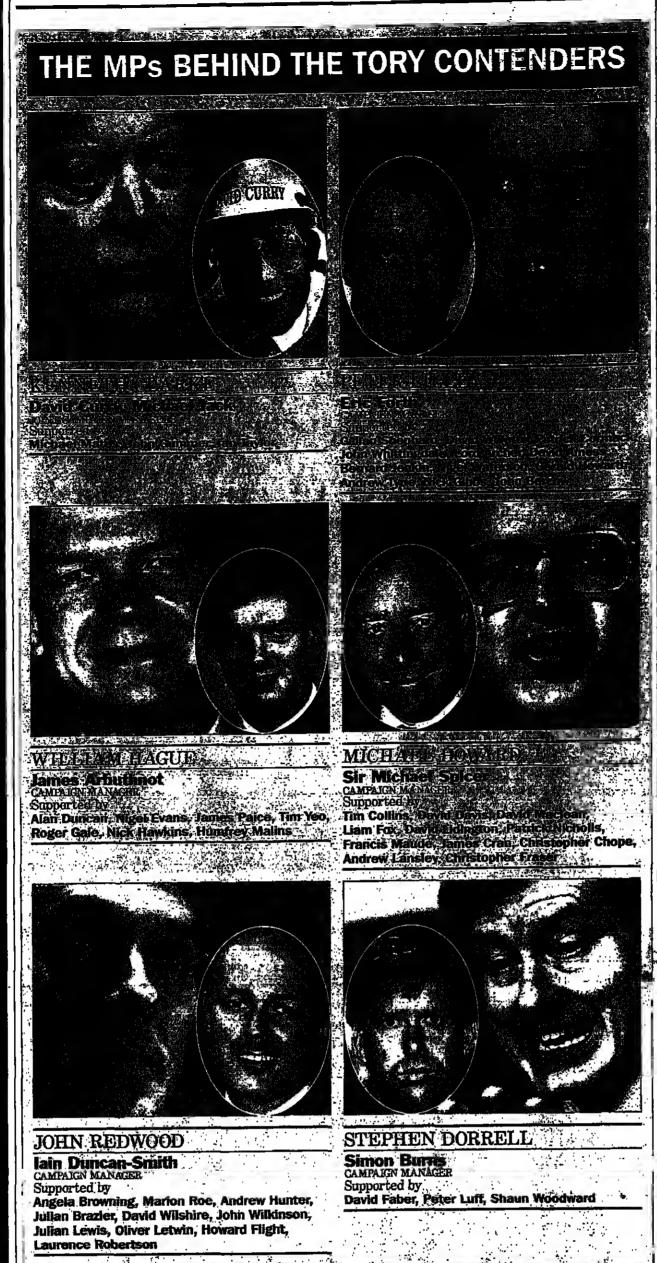
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Heseltine likely to come out for Clarke

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Kenneth Clarke's campaign managers are very wary of letting the names of their supporters out of the bag, but more names are being promised for next week in a tantalising attempt to keep the momentum going.
It is expected that Michael

Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, will be one of those backing the Clarke campaign as the bandwagon rolls for the first ballot on 10 June. For the momeot, however,

there is an impression of deep torpor coming out of the Clarke camp, with very little of the frenetic activity that is marking the campaigns of other cootenders for the leadership of the Conservative Party.

Whether that is because the former Chancellor's campaign managers David Curry and Michael Jack - both former ministers – have made a calculated assessment of the conservatism of the Commons electorate, or because they are supremely confident, is a mat-

While Peter Lilley is undertaking a "tour of the regions" - starting in Leeds tomorrow. before going on to Bristol, Cardiff, Birmingham, Edinburgh, and then back to London for Sunday - Mr Clarke is to make his first speech of the cam-

Some of Mr Clarke's supporters present themselves as above the fray, with others scrapping among themselves for the same votes". other Clarke men are frustrated by an attitude that is so laid back, it is in danger of falling over.

But one member of the Clarke campaign team did say that apart from the five declared supporters, including former mioisters Joho Gummer, Michael Mates, and Ian Taylor, there were more than 40 committed votes already in.

Stephen Dorrell, on the other hand, is said to have just five supporters - and one of them is currently being seduced away - and six votes, including his

He is off to Bristol tonight, Stratford-upon-Avon tomorrow, North Wales and Manchester on Saturday.

John Redwood, who has been campaigning ever since he left the Cabinet to challenge John Major for the party leadership, has by far the most professional campaign, with the canny lain Duncan-Smith, the Commons successor to Norman Tebbit in Chingford, as his man-

land yesterday, he plans to hold

candidate in the race, has a spread of backers including Tim Yeo, a dripping wet Tory moderate, and Alan Duncan.

from the rampant right.

Mr Hague returns from a short holiday today, he plans a Manchester speech on Friday, and is due to appear on BBC television's On the Record programme on Sunday.

As a former Home Secretary. Michael Howard, like Mr Clarke, has a significant number of ex-ministers on his campaign team which is led by Sir Michael Spicer a leading to chael Spicer, a leading backbench Thatcherite,

His campaign has been as as-siduous as Mr Redwood's in its cultivation and care of the media, but a number of oatural supporters have uodoubtedly been deterred by Ann Widde-combe's broadside.

Mr Howard will tonight address a meeting of constitueocy association chairmen, and tomorrow he will speak at a Bow Group meeting. Last week, Mr Lilley held a

special news cooference at the expensive Institute of Civil Engineers building in West-minster - the venue for the press lauoch of Martin Bell, the former DBC war correspondent turned independent MP for Tatton-to introduce a batch of "new parliamentary recruits to

dazzling array of young, up-and-coming right-wing Thatcherites on offer, including former ministers David Willetts and Eric Forth, bright young things like John Whittingdalc and Bernard Jenkin, and the newly-elected Gerald Howarth and John

By itself, that lot would be enough to give nightmares to any self-respecting Tory mod-

But among the new recruits to the Lilley camp was Sir Patrick Cormack, one of the most extreme moderates in the parliamentary Conservative Party; a man so wet that he positively drips moderation. It is possible that endorse-

ments of that calibre, and the mix it represents, taken with the backing of Gillian Shephard, the former Secretary of State for Education and Employment, as Mr Lilley's declared deputy, will swing other supporters at the end of the day.

That is what the campaigns hope for; that star names and eodorsements will impress and attract others.

For those without a judgement of their own, the name game could be important. But most members of the 164strong Commons electorate have minds of their own, and they can be expected to make them up on their own.

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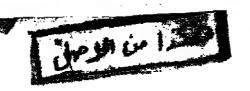
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Spielberg creates his biggest monster to date

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"Something has survived" screams the promotional slogan from hamburger boxes and the sides of almost every bus in the land. It sure has. Four years after the United States surrendered itself to dinosaur fever with the release of Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park, it is doing him the same favour all over again.

Never mind that Mr Spiel-berg's vaunted sequel, The Lost World: Jurassic Park, opened last week to mixed reviews. (It is the principle of having a story line that appears to be extinct here). The film, starring Jeff Goldblum, has just trampled the competition in most spectacuOver the four-day Memorial Day weekend that has just passed here, Lost World, by initial estimates, grossed \$90.1m (£56.3m) at the box office - an amazing 59 per cent more than the previous four-day record. Thus the \$75m production costs

of the film are already covered. The feat dwarfs the previous four-day record established over last year's Memorial Day weekend by Tom Cruise and his equally plot-deprived extravaganza, Mission Impossible, which sucked in \$56.8m.

Audiences, clearly, have not tired of Spielberg. More remarkable, perhaps, is the longevity of their fascination with things prehistoric. And it is not just the new film that is

chandising frenzy that followed the release of Jurassic Park appears to be in motion all over again. (Did it ever die?)

Toy shops across the US are buried in drifts of plastic di-nosaurs and models of jeeps. In New York, even the Natural History Museum, with its dino-exhibits, has not been slow in cashing in on the wave. All weekend it was doing a brisk trade in action figures, jew-ellery, books and audio-casettes.

Loosely, the film is set on an island (again), overrun by antidiluvian creatures - unbeat-able special effects, of course and follows two groups of scientists who drop by. The goodguys camp wants to protect the dinosaurs, the bad-guys camp is



"Penple love those di-nosaurs," confessed David Koep, the screenwriter on the new film. "Dinosaurs have this almost mystical appeal to chil-dren and adults: they're thrilling

and terrifying and safe". Mr Goldblum himself made it to several cinemas in Los Angeles to watch audience reaction

to Lost World. "It seems dinosaurs have some visceral appeal and powerful connection to people", he said. The rush to see the film seems to have been joined by almost every demographic group: old and young, men and women.

Other, more mundane, factors in its success should not be ignored, however. It was an unusually wet holiday week-end over much of the US, making cinemas the best places to be. Also, because other film studios were daunted by the dinosaurs' return, almost oo serious competitioo was put

a challenge to find any other film to watch. (This correspondent studio that financed the film the oews could not be sweeter. recommends the insanely purile There seems little doubt the worldwide takings will exceed Austin Powers as an alternative.) Lost World was shown in a even the \$1bo earned by Jurassic Park. "I truly didn't believe record number of cinemas -3,281 of them, which put the any one film could do this film on a total of about 6,000 level of business," commeted Nikki Rocco, Universal's pres

drawing the crowds; the mer- bent on exploitation. A chance for all you Euro-sceptics. ..but the great escapist is set to turn serious again creative pain. He told to discover what makes Brussels tick. this month's issue of

When Schindler's List. (right) came out, the film about the wartime Industrialist who saved Jews from the Nazis, the word was out: its director, Steven Spielberg, creator of such escapist gems as Jaws, ET and Indiana Jones, had at last turned personal and deeply serious. trophies, including for Best Director and

Best Film. He went on to give \$5m (£3.6m) of his own money to create the Shoah Visual History Foundation, to preserve the experiences of Holocaust survivors on CD-Rom. Schindler was three years ago. Suddenly, however, Spielberg has delivered adventure-fantasy again with Lost World, his sequel to his 1993 hit, Jurassic Park.
Even Spielberg himself has dropped hims that

making the Jurassic sequel caused him some

Premiere magazine: 'I found myself in the middle of the sequel to more and more impamore and more impa-tient with myself with respect to the funds of films I really like to make... (I felt) I was just serving the audi-ance a hencome." ence a banquet."

His upcoming films suggest he has culcity returned to the earnest mode. The first, Amistad, which stars Anthony Hopkins and Morgan Freeman, will be released at Christmas. The film is about a rebellion aboard a Spanish stave ship in 1839 and an ensuing trial in Connecticut. This spisode is seen by some historians as the milestone from which emancipation of slaves eventually followed. Next year will see the release of Saving Private Ryan, a Second World War drama starting Term Beriles.



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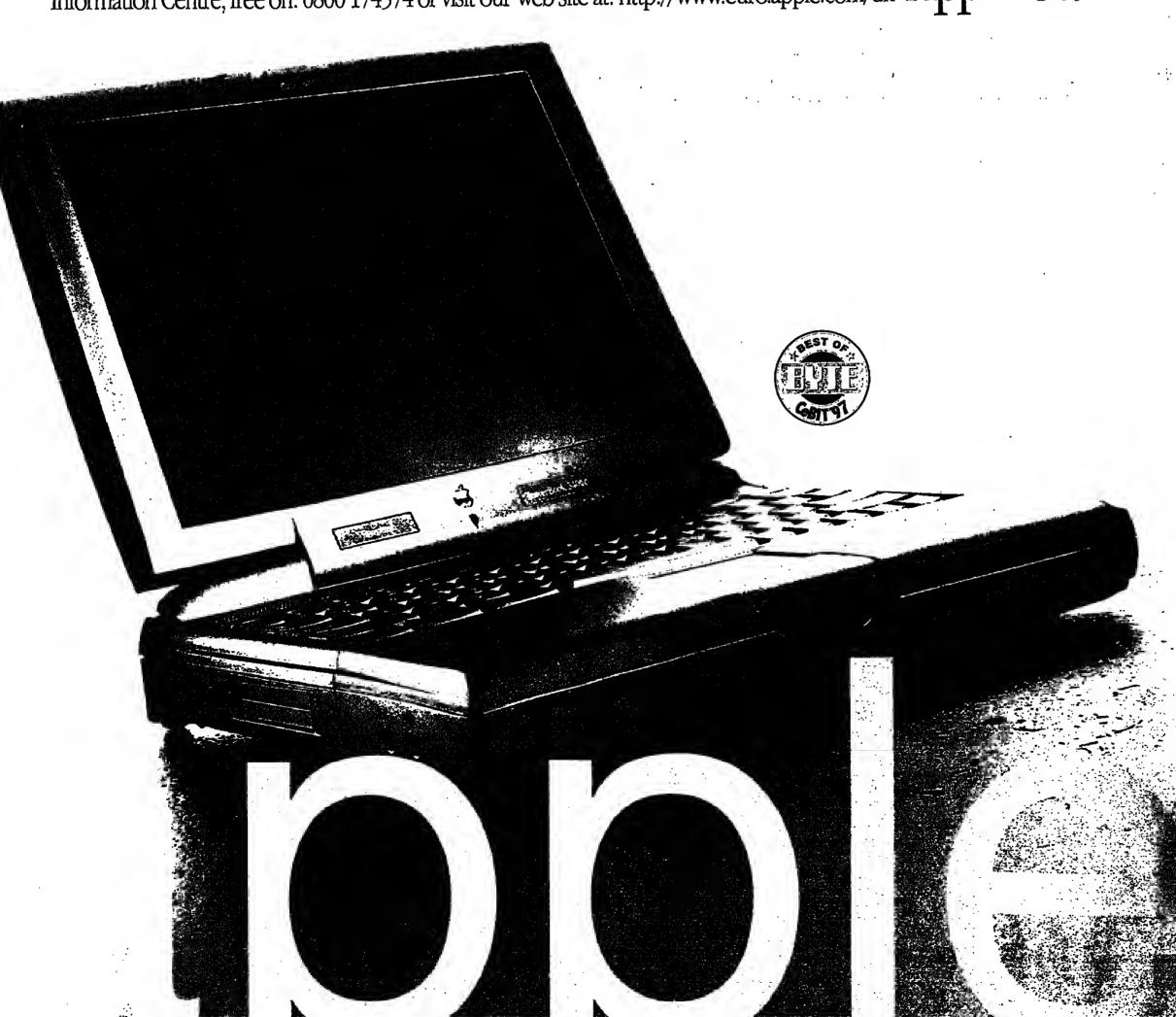
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Kitaj

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Academy

Brilliant splashes of colour and exquisitely-executed black and white prints jostled side by side as the critics got the first glimpse of the 229th Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy in London, yesterday.

But members of the public have to wait until Sunday before they will be able to see the 1,201 works

paintings, prints and sculptures of professional artists with the work of Britain's keen amateurs. The American artist RB Kitaj once more succeeds in seizing the limelight with a flm price tag on his work Sandra Three, the followup to last year's scathing attack on the critics he hlames for contributing to the death of his wife, Sandra Fisher, who was also an artist. At the opposite eod of the price range, Juliet Blaxland is offering an unlimited edition of three works entitled Life in a Listed Building for £10 a piece. Last year more than 2,900 works were sold at an average price of £428, making a total of £1,2m. Highlights of the exhibition, which is sponsored by Guinness, include a work by Jasper Johns, an

honorary member of the academy, and a portrait of Stephen Fry. the

actor, by Maggie Hamhling. Works by Frank Auerbach, Lucien Freud and Richard Hamilton all appear in the exhibition for the first time, at Kitaj's request. They hang alongside his work. Kitaj describes them as the "Over-The-

Hill-Gang" whom he had asked to

lieve in a Geriatric Avant-Garde".

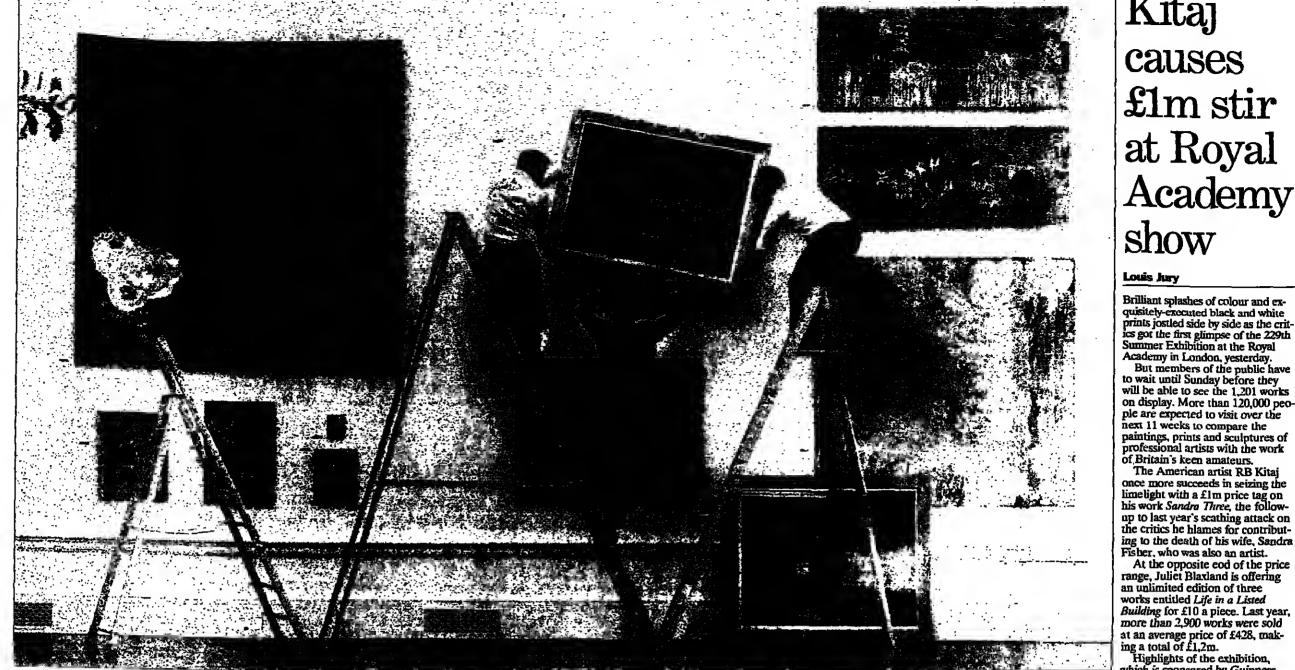
join him in the show "because I be-

But there are also miniatures of

the entertainer Rolf Harris and the

actress Dame Judi Dench as well

as the usual range of landscapes,



Final touch: Royal Academy Staff hanging some of the paintings, which along with prints and sculptures make up the 1,201 works featuring in this year's Summer Exhibition Photograph: Tom Pilston

Class-size cut may reduce choice

Lucy Ward **Education Correspondent**

Pareotal choice of primary schools will "go out of the window" under government plans to limit infant class sizes to a maximum of 30, a head

teachers' leader warned yesterday. David Hart, Geoeral Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the restriction would inevitably mean fewer parents securing their first preference school since popular schools would be able to turn away childreo after filling all their places.

Enforcing the planned limit, to be included in a White Paper due next

changes to the appeal system available to parents denied a place for their child at the school of their choice, Mr Hart said on the opening day of the Association's annual conference in Scarborough.

If the maximum was to be en-

forced, appeals panels - which currently grant the majority of appeals which proceed as far as a full hearing - would have to give up the power to force the school to take a pupil where the admission would push the size of a class above 30, he said. Pareots would then be obliged to turn to a less heavily subscribed school in. search of a place.

The move to cut class sizes for five

30 by 2000 was a key Labour manifesto pledge. At present, some 440,000 children in the age group are educated in classes above that number. The government proposes to reduce class sizes using £140m saved by abolishing the assisted places scheme, which funds places in private schools for children from poor

backgrounds. At present, Mr Hart said, admissions appeals panels were "prooe to accept pareotal preference" unless a school could come up with a strong reason why a child could oot be admitted. Class sizes were not considered a strong reason for refusal.

To keep class-size targets, the

their key criterion, even though the move would undermine parental choice. Mr Hart added: "You can't have a policy of maximum class sizes of up to 30 and at the same time say there must be free and full' parental choice. You can't have the two together - something has to go,"

However, although he challenged the government to explain how it would change admissions procedures to ensure class sizes were met, he insisted the policy could work. One option open to ministers is the im-

position of a legal limit on class sizes.

The NAHT believes imposing a statutory maximom might leave heads with practical difficulties as

governors. The Associatioo would prefer stronger appeals panels and more cohereot" planning by local education authorities to ensure funds are used to keep class sizes down.

Senior government sources yesterday acknowledged that the operation of appeals panels would be examined as class-size reduction was phased in. The four-year phasing period would allow time to iron out any difficulties, the source said. Schools Standards Minister Stephen Byers said the government was aware of "potential difficul-ties," surrounding implication for parental choice. He said: "This is an

ssue that we will be addressing in the

oncile our piedge to reduce class sizes with the oeed to allow parents to exercise a preference about the school their children should attend." Headteachers yesterday called on the Government to clear the way for substantial pay rises for heads and still lives and nudes.

June. We are confident we can rec-

deputies to stem a growing tide of early departures from the profession. Unveiling oew figures showing a rise of over 90 per cent in the oum-

ber of heads retiring early this school coherence. But he was "pretty year compared with last, the National catholic" in his tastes and had Association of Head Teachers said made sure he had choseo a variety salary increases would be crucial in of styles and oot only those like his reversing the trend and in ensuring own "funny narrative" prints.

new recruits were found to fill grow"We had an awful lot of sheep

Chris Orr, the Royal Academician and printmaker who curated the print gallery, said he had endeavoured to give the exhibitioo a

entres this year. It was de year of the sheep," he said. Not all were choseo, he said, but his own

work inspired by Dolly, the cloned Scottish sheep, is among them. It is called The Martians Have Landed. Twenty-five sculptures in the exhibition have been captioned with and can be touched by them.

Burns, 46, begins his new job in June, taking over as head of the NHS's In"terribly important"." I came the From the end of June, visitors

Noose threat halts eviction Shake-up for NHS computers

Michael Streeter

Officials trying to evict victim protesters from the site of the planned Manchester secood runway were delayed yesterday by a womao demonstrator with a makeshift noose around her neck.

The woman, called Liz, has attached a rope around her to the entrance door of the main tunnel at the protesters' Sir Cliff Richard OBE Vegan Revolutioo Camp. If the door is opened she would

be hanged, and a ootice and diagram has been left outside which clearly describes her position. Bailiffs were trying to find a way of removing the woman without harming her.

The Uoder Sheriff of Cheshire, Randal Hibbert, who is heading the operation to evict people from the site in Bollin Valley, south of Manchester, said: "We are thinking of ways and means to get her out." He said the woman was inside the

cliff-face tunnel head-first and it could take two days to remove her. Three male protesters are also in the tunnel, one of six which bailiffs have yet to clear after removing peo-

One protester, Jeff Gazzard, said there were still around 80 protesters on the heavily-wooded area after a oumber of arrests yesterday. He estimated that it could take officials up

After a meeting with the bailiffs, he urged them to continue to allow the demonstrators a full supply of fresh air in the tunnels and let them give themselves up "voluntarily" when food and water supplies ran review next mooth, led by Frank out. He said their role was to hinder Burns, chief executive of the Wirral out. He said their role was to hinder

at 4am on Tuesday last week.

ple from the Zion Tree and Wild Garbooby trap." Mr Hibbert said they lic camps at the weekend. The eviction process from the pro-

Science Editor

The trouble-strewn record of computing in the National Health Service will come under a far-reaching

the existin for as long as possible, but denied suggestions that gas cylinders had been pot in place to harm officials: "There is nothing down there which could be described as a there have been several well-publicised computing failures in the NHS had found a butane cylinder at the in recent years. But he is convinced entrance to one tunnel. -introduced with the enthusiastic unposed £172m second runway began derstanding of health care professionals - is the way forward.

most hospitals are still coping with paper-based systems. And the traf-fic of patient information between GPs and hospitals, thousands every day, is mostly by hits of paper car-ried by people in trucks," he said, and suggested that it would be better if those bits of information were car-

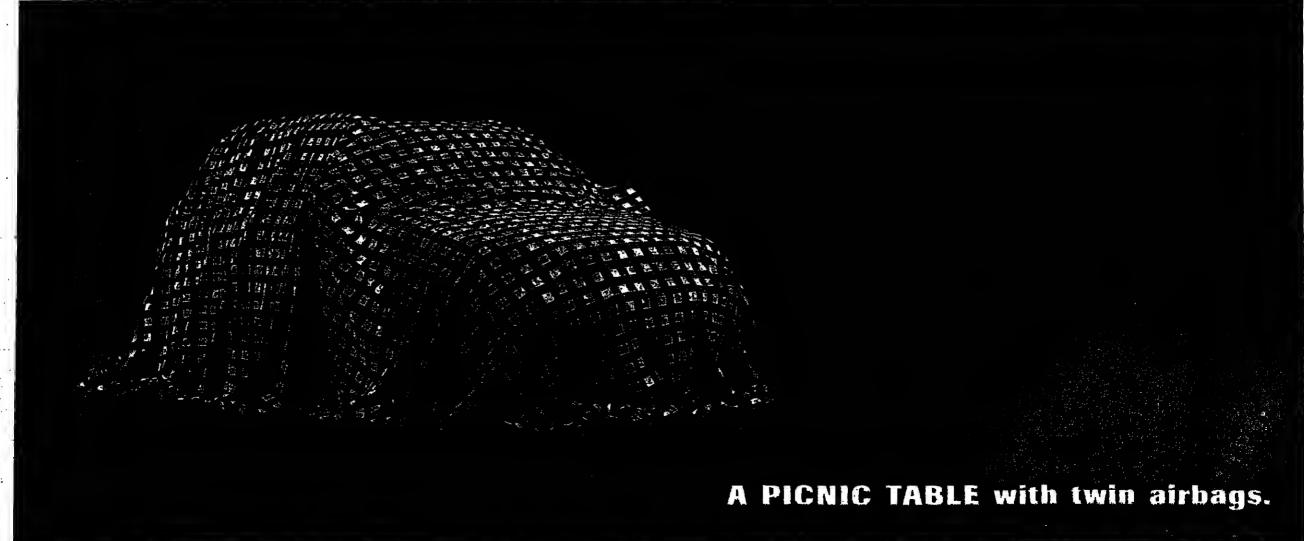
ried invisibly over phone lines. His concern will be to shift the focus away from over-arching natiooally integrated systems - such as the £100m Hospitals Information Sup-port System (HISS), begun in 1988 and towards systems designed for the local hospital level. "I would be disappointed if I can't make the rest of the NHS move towards this mod-system has been judged a success. I ceive colouring pads and crayons.

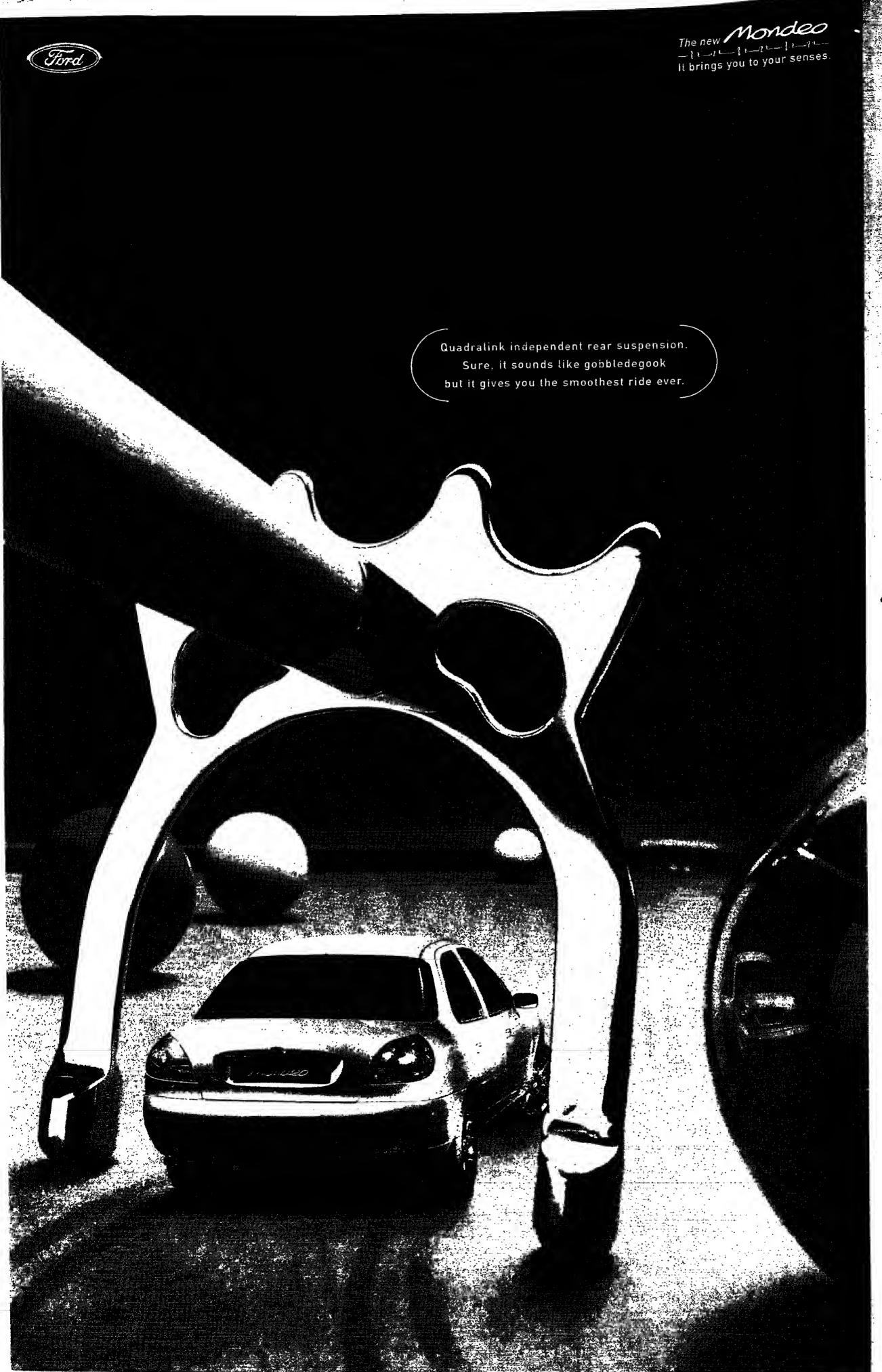
el," he commented, though he would oot suggest a target date for making | braille for the visually impaired NHS records entirely electronic. After 30 years with the NHS, Mr | Gioya Steinke, 77, who is regis-

taking over as head of the NHS's Information Management Group.

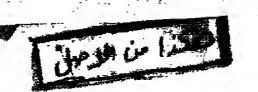
As chief executive at the Wirral and ached to. All they ask is that Trust, Mr Burns has overseen the you don't wear rings. launch in 1990 of an Electronic Patient Record system, which puts can also see the Final Year Show clinical records and data on to a sin- of 19 Royal Academy students.

gie database within a hospital lit cost £14m and is used by 3,000 staff, who have dealt with 80,000 in-patients, academy will stay open until 250,000 outpatients, 90,000 accident 8.30pm. And all children under and emergency cases and 250,000 eight who visit during Gallery therapeutic visits to clinics. The EPR Week, from 19 to 27 July, will re-





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Kick in the teeth for the sport no one wants to regulate

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Kick in the teeth for the sport no one wants to regulate

Michael Hanlon

Bitter recriminations have broken out among the governing bodies of the sport of kickboxing following the death of a fighter at the weekend.

The organisations that represent Britain's estimated 15,000 kickboxers blame each other for a lack of regulation and for the power struggles and in-fighting that have led to the sport

losing official recognition.

For its part, the English Sports
Council, the largest of the four bodics that regulate British sport, said that concerns over the safety of kickboxing together with a "marked lack of uniwithin the sport's governing bodies had led to the martial art losing its

recognition by the council in 1990.

The body which originally sanctioned the fatal fight in Ulster claimed yesterday that it had withdrawn its accreditation after discovering that no doctor was in attendance.

Sean McBride, an 18-year-old amateur from Dungannon, Co Tyrone, died hours after winning his Ulster Welterweight title bout at the Glengannon Hotel outside Dungannon on Sunday. He collapsed in the ring after the contest and was taken away on a stretcher hut died in hospital without regaining consciousness. He had not been wearing head protection during the contest and received a blow to the back of the head.

After the fight, Billy Murray, the International Sports Kickboxing Association (ISKA) champion, who is also from Northern Ireland, accused the four UK sports councils of failing to regulate kickboxing and allowing fights to take place without proper medical supervision and regulation.

Mr Murray attacked the World Kickboxing Organisatioo (WKO) for giving the fight its accreditation and targeted the Sports Council for failing to regulate the sport. "The Sports Council is to blame for this. We have been calling for this [regulation] for many years and they have been sitting on their



Power play: Billy Murray, Ireland's former kickboxing champion, in action. Murray has accused four UK sports bodies of failing to regulate the sport properly following the death on Sunday of Ulster Welterweight champion Sean McBride (below, right) Photograph: Pacemaker Belfast

backsides doing nothing. I don't think they understand the sport. I don't think they know how to categorise it - they are saying: 'is it kung-fu?' Is it karate?'."

"I would question the validity of the WKO ... the WKO is at fault and the Sports Council is at fault. This fight should have never taken place without a doctor,

Mr Murray denied that the sport was unsafe, "Sure, you get a few cuts and bumps, like in any contact sport. But there have never been any seri-ous injuries before," he said.

A spokeswoman for the English Sports Council denied that the body had not dooe coough to regulate kickboxing. "The history of the martial arts in the UK, and internationally, reveals a marked lack of unity within many of the sports, with a multitude of self-appointed governing

bodies ... and a range of breakaway associations involved in continual disagreements," she said. "In addition to the multiplicity of organisations, the council had and has concerns about the rules governing safety in the activity. An inspection did nothing to reduce the council's concerns about

standards of safety within the sport." Yesterday, Phil Mayo, of the WKO, based in Londoo, said that his organisation had removed its accreditation from the fight, "Initially the promoter applied for the sanction to be organised, which was given by us provided he abided by the rules, but when we got there we found there was no doctor in attendance, and that was completely outside our rules and we withdrew our sanction," he said.

Mr Mayo dismissed Mr Murray's claims: "The ISKA is a basically

nuscule in the UK. I believe that there is just this one man in Belfast who represents them," he said.

A third body, the World Kickboxing Association (WKA), based in Birmingham, claimed that it was the true governing body of the sport. Paul Ingram, World President of the WKA, said that it was the oldest kick-

boxing organisation in the world and that the WKO was only a small body. "The ISKA - which by the way stands for the International Sports and Karate Organisation, whatever Billy Murray said it stands for - is more of a promotional body than a sanctiooing association.

"At our fights there always have to be paramedics and at least one doctor. The fighters themselves are licenced and insured."



Hunt for source of hospital food bug

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Public health officials were urgently trying to locate the source of an outbreak of the food-poisoning bug E. coli yes-terday which has infected 21 staff and patients in a Scottish hospital.

The outbreak, one of the largest this year, was identified at the Falkirk and District Royal Infirmary, the hospital which treated victims of last year's epidemic in which 19 people died. It will renew concern about Scotland's high rate of infection with E. coli, one of the nastiest food-poisoning hacteria, which

Health officials said six of the 21 in the latest outhreak were ill with symptoms such as diarrhoea. and the rest had been identified as carriers of the bacterium in tests but remained well. Thirteen of those infected were patients, seven were nurses and one was a domestic worker.

Central Scotland NHS Trust. which runs the unit, said doctors and nurses were taking all necessary action to contain the infection and prevent its spread. Dr Derek Sinclair, medical director for the trust, said: "We have taken all necessary measures to give care to those affected in this outbreak. We are trying to establish the source and samples have been taken from a wide range of people and

examining all options."

The outhreak occurred in three continuing care wards at the hospital which has about 70 elderly meo and women patients, ranging in age from 70 to 90, and more than 100 staff, all of whom will be tested for the infection.

places. We have oo idea of the

source at this stage and we are

hospital kitchens have been screened, but said: "We didn't check with a microscope, that's why everything has now been sent for analysis."

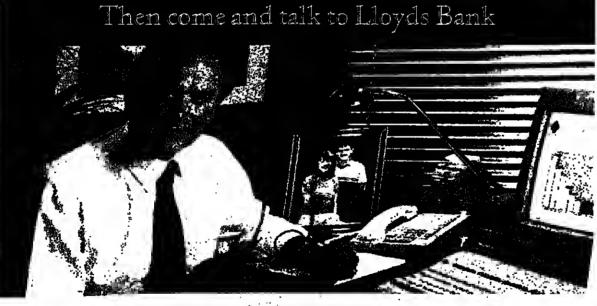
Last year's outbreak infected 496 people over five weeks in November, of whom 272 were confirmed in laboratory tests. The outhreak was linked with cooked meat and pies supplied by John M Barr and Son, a butcher in Wishaw, which supplied more than 60 outlets in Lanarkshire and the Forth Valley.

Until last year, previous annual totals of cases of E. coli had ranged from 200 to 250 but Scotland's rate of infection is now running at three to four times the English level, per head of population. Officials privately believe Scottish methods of collecting data are more accurate and there is greater awareness of the problem north of the border but that this is unlikely to account for the whole of the difference.

Dr John Cowden, consultant epidemiologist at the Scottish Centre for Infection and Environmental Health, said responsibility for preventing outbreaks lay with kitchen staff who prepared food. The E. coli bug only contaminates the surface of the meat, through contact with cattle faeces, and is destroyed in cooking. Cooked meat can become contaminated, however, through contact with infected raw meat and must be kept separate from it at all times.

Dr Cowden said: "Present controls at the farm and the slaughterhouse are insufficient to guarantee food free of bacteria. Therefore the final responsibility lies with the person preparing the food. This is a heat-sensitive bacterium. If you cook the food properly and ensure it is not cross contami-Dr Sinclair confirmed the nated subsequently, it is safe."

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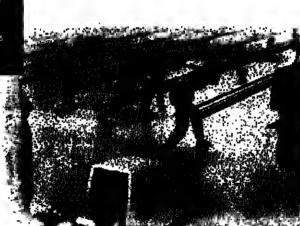
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presidency.

The President's subsequent John Lichfield fixing, in effect, of his prime min-ister and long-time acolyte, Alain Juppe, puts him, more than ever, in the firing line. With in Paris It also creates a situation which must be unusual in any no one else to hlame a defeat democracy. French voters are bein the second round on Sunday

will be primarily a humiliation for Mr Chirac. In a televised address to the nation last night, Mr Chirac appealed to French voters to spare Prance, the European Union -and himself - a long period of left-right power-sharing or "co-

The decision of the unpopular Mr Juppé to stand down, whatever the result this weekend, is supposed to bring out the tens of thousands of centre-right voters who stayed at home the first time around. The Elysée Palace said Mr Juppe's mid-election vanishing act - something unprecedented in French politics - would avoid "an excessive concentration on his personality" in the run-up to the decisive ballot.

Chirac: Fears 'cohabitation'

an exceptionally rancorous campaign in 1995, Mr Séguin has been an irritating background critic of the Juppe government, who scarcely hides his low opin-ion of President Chirac's politiing asked to vote in a political vacuum. They are being asked to return a government without cal abilities. The alternative, it is knowing who the leader of that said, might be some technocratgovernment will be and without ic figure from a nationalised or being given any detail on how its policies might change. The rumours on Mr Chirac's ni-state enterprise.

The favourite among centreright parliamentary candidates likely choices for prime minis-ter which were circulating in of the Gaullist RPR, and their partners in the UDF, would Paris yesterday did not clarify the situation. If anything they probably he Mr Séguin. He is seen as a man who could clarmuddled it further. The front-runners, according to Le ify the muddle in French politics by hringing government policy away from its market and EU-oriented reforms and back Monde, were: Philippe Seguin, president of the national assembly, a partially recanted EMU-sceptic, who would like to towards a dirigiste consensus. How this would square with push government policy to the left; and Edouard Balladur, France's commitments to prethe former prime minister, a convinced EMU-fanatic, who pare its economy for entry to the single currency is unclear.

Mr Balladur made his own would like to push government policy to the right. pitch to regain the job in an in-terview with *Le Monde* yester-day in which he said the secret Either appointment would amount in itself to several helpwas not to follow the "Angloings of humble pie for Mr Chirac. Mr Balladur, an old friend, op-posed him for the Presidency in Saxon model" hut to invent a liberalism "à la française".

Le Monde joined in the chap-rus of disapproval from the left of the manner and timing of Mr. of the manner and unung of Mr.
Juppe's departure. The newspaper praised the outgoing
prime minister's determination
in trying to push through unit
popular reforms of the French. welfare state. But it lashed Mi Chirac for cynically ditching him in adversity and said the President was now himself the object of a national "crisis of confidence". Left-wing politic cians said the departure of My Juppe was a symptom of the "desperation" of the centre: right and created a constitutionally unfortunate precedent.

Will it succeed in saving the election for the centre-right? Possibly, but the arithmetic remains complex. Of the 555 constituencies in France proper, 400 are virtually certain to split evenly between the centre-right and the left. Of the others as many as 100 are too close to call.

Some 78 constituencies are three-way battles between the left, centre-right and far-right National Front. All but five of these were held hy the outgoing government. The presence of an NF candidate, splitting the overall vote for the right, is expected to bring in a Socialist or Communist in at least 50 of these constituencies. The rest are too close to call.

The outcome on Sunday will depend on three variables: how many centre-right non-voters from last Sunday turn out to block the left; how many NF voters swing to the centre-right; and how many leftist non-voters, encouraged by the good showing of the Socialists, join

Cold War spymaster stays out of jail

Wolf, the legendary former East German spymaster, seen above leaving court with his wife Andrea, was convicted yesterday of four Cold War kidnappings and given a two-year suspended

Düsseldnrf State

Supreme Court verdict means foxing Western intelligence that Wolf - who has never served a prison sentence since the collapse of East Germany desnite two convictions - can be certain be never will.

It constitutes yet another victory for Walf, who spent cash, a home in California and three Cold War decades nut- a new identity if he cooperated

agents while having his own agents steal vital Nato secrets. Wolf's knowledge was considered so valuable that in official with the CIA offered him

with the American spy agency, at least according to Wolf's memoirs, due out in 13 comtries on 1 June.

He says he turned down the CIA offer, even though it would have put him out of the reach

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PACKARD

Le Pen holds the key • to victory for left

The National Front leader would like to humiliate President Jacques Chirac and mess around the European Union by assisting the left to win the second round of the French elec-

tion on Sunday.
In theory, he has it in his power to do so. The election is balanced so finely that the Front's first-round voters bold the destiny of France, conceivably of Europe, in their hands.

Jean-Marie Le Pen could advise NF voters at a giant ral-ly in the Paris suburbs tomorrow night to swing left where their own candidates have been eliminated. However, to do so would jeopardise the chances of a handful of NF candidates, including bis own daughter, Marie-Caroline.

The Front scored its highest ever total - 15 per cent of the vote - last Sunday in the first round of a French parliamentary election. A record number of NF candidates, 133, including Marie-Caroline Le Pen, west of Paris, survived into the

second round this weekend.

Mr Le Pen's instinct is to urge FN voters to vote for the left in the more than 400 constituencies in which their candidates have been eliminated. The normal pattern would be for 40 per

Mary Dejevsky Washington

cent of FN voters to switch to hopes of winning two seats in the centre-right, 20 per cent to the left and 40 per cent not to vote at all.

If Mr Le Peo could disturb this pattern, he might tip the election towards Lionel Jospin, the Socialist leader, consigning President Chirac to five years of co-habitation with the left, bumiliating the centre-right and creating more growing-room for the NF. A left victory would also throw into doubt the timetable for Economic and said he would prefer the left to Monetary Union (EMU), win the election. But be was diswhich Mr Le Pen opposes.

But the left is the main threat to the FN in the half-dozen or so constituencies where it has a chance of winning seats in the National Assembly. If Mr Le Pen is saying "Vote left", it becomes awkward for FN candidates in these seats to urge centre-right voters to vote for the Front to "Keep out the left".

The seats in question include Vitrolles-Marignane, near Marseilles, where Bruno Mé-gret, the *de facto* number two of the FN, and Mr Le Pen's in-subordinate rival, is in a neckand-neck, second round run-off against the outgoing Socialist MR. To lose this race would cause little grief to Mr Le Pen.

Toulon in straight run-offs with left-wing candidates. And then there is Marie-Caroline Le Pen. She topped the first round poll in Mantes-la-Jolle, in the suburban departement of Yvelines, hut the Socialist candidate, who came third, could win on Sunday if she inherits all the firstround Communist voters. The FN leader made sever-

al speeches during the firstround campaign in which be owned in an unprecedented public display of dissension. not only by Mr Megret but by other, more loyal, FN leaders. At a moment of triumph for

the FN, Mr Le Pen's positioo within the party has been weakened by the rise of Mr Mégret and by his own decision not to run in any constituency (for fear

of losing while Mr Mégret won). Tomorrow night he will probably back his instinct and say "Vote tactically left", while trying to make exceptions of the seats the NF could win.

Conversations in the Le Pen household after Sunday will be interesting if the formidable Marie-Caroline loses to her Socialist rival by a couple of hundred votes.



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Voters -- sidency Russia shakes mailed fist at Taliban danger

Moscow — While Boris Yeltsin was in Paris bowing to Nato pressure on his western front, the eyes of his Moscow policymakers were trained nervously on Central Asia yesterday, and on Central Asia yestermay, and in particular oo the dangers which Russia believes flow from the dramatic Taliban triumphs n northern Afghanistan.

The Russian foreign minstry was "gravely concerned" thout the "potential threat" to he southern frootier of the forner Soviet Union following he Talihan's seizure of northrn Afghanistan, gains which ive the Islamic fundamentalts a firmer grip on the counry than any regime since the oviets were driven out in 1989.
Officials from Russia and ight ex-Soviet republics met in Moscow to discuss moves towards implementing a collective security treaty, never before



he Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have pledged to defend one anothr against external aggressors. When news of the Taliban adances spread at the weekend.

Russia placed on alert its 25,000 troops along the border with Tajikistan, amid fears that the region could be destabilised by flood of refugees. Nearly six years after the ollapse of the Soviet Union,

Moscow thirsts for the influence that the Soviet Union wielded in Central Asia, not least because of the massive oil and gas

Kremlin sounds alarm over security in Central Asia, writes Phil Reeves

pers: "Will there be war on the southern frontier of the CIS?" asked Izvestia. Nezavisimaya Gazeta floated the widely-held view that the US is covertly supporting the Taliban in order to control oil and gas pipelines out

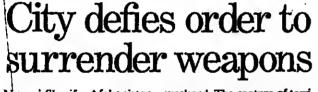
The events in Afghanistan were "primarily an internal affair", a foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday. He pointed out that the Taliban have yet to threaten CIS horders, but emphasised that the CIS collective security treaty would be activated if this hap-pencd. Disapproving growls have also come from Yevgeny Primakov, Russia's Foreign Minister, in recent days.

Despite this, speculation has begun in Moscow that the Kremlin may soon recognise the Talihan government, despite its fear of the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the countries of Central Asia and Russia itself, whose population includes millions of Muslims.

Following the flight from Mazar-i-Sharif of General Rashid Dostum, leader of the opposition alliance, the Taliban now controls 90 per cent of the country, including all major towns and cities. "What else can be done?" asked Viktor Kremenyuk, an analyst with the Moscow-based US-Canada Trust, To stick to a non-existent or ephemeral government, or to recognise the reality?"

Such a move would not re-move the general panic over the advance of the Taliban into northern Afghanistan, territory which was viewed by Moscow and Afehanistan's neighbours as a critical huffer zone.

The Taliban has insisted it has no designs on territory outside Afghanistan but such claims have done little to allay fears that religious zealots are closing in on the Muslim nations of reserves there. Its alarm was re- former-Soviet Central Asia, all lected in yesterday's newspa- of which have secular govern-



(AP) - The thud of rockets rererberated throughout Mazar--Sharif yesterday as residents of this newly captured desert city defied orders from the Taliban

religious army to disarm. The fighting began in the Shia Muslim neighbourhood of Saeedahad, where three Taliban soldiers were killed, and quickly spread throughout the city. By dusk, a major battle was raging. Rockets slammed into

huildings. People scrambled for cover as small-arms fire raged. It was not clear who was fighting whom, or whether there had been a collapse in the uneasy alliance between the Taliban and its ethnic Uzbek allies who helped the Taliban seize the northern provinces over the

Mazar-i-Sharif, Afghanistan weekend. The capture of territory once held by wardord Rashid Dostum gave the Taliban control of nearly all of Afghanistan. There was no immediate information on casualties.

Tanks and huge trucks with multiple rocket launchers headed toward Sacedabad. The roar of heavy machine-gun fire ripped through the night air. Residents bunkered down inside their homes and international aid groups asked their workers to stay indoors.

Earlier yesterday, brawls erupted as Taliban troops tried to disarm soldiers loyal to Malik Pahlawan, the Uzbek general who led a revolt last week that overthrew Dostum - who fled to Turkey. Residents opened fire. killing three Taliban soldiers.



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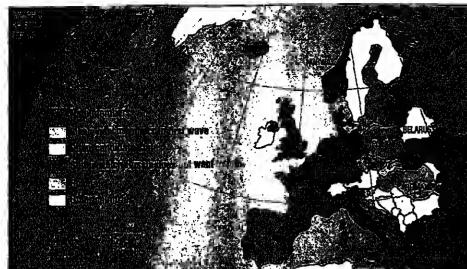
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Russia and Nato enter new détente



Yeltsin pledges to dismantle warheads aimed at West

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

The "Founding Act on mutual relations, co-operation and security between the Russian Federation and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation" commits Russia and the 16-nation Alliance to a "fundamentally new relationship" in which they "no longer consider each other as adversaries".

Boris Yeltsin kept up Russia's opposition to Nato's planned enlargement right to the end, but after signing the Act, which paves the way for it, he surprised everyone by announcing be would order the warbeads taken off Russian missiles pointed towards Nato states.

His impromptu announce-ment threw officials into confusion, and the Russian missile command said they had not been told about it and did not know exactly what their President meant, Russia has already signed agreements with the US. Britain and France not to aim missiles at them. President Yeltsin was extending the "de-targeting" arrangement to the other Nato states.

The Founding Act was signed by all 17 beads of government, including British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who met Mr Yeltsin for the first time. The two men discussed organised crime, an area of concern to both. During their discussion, Mr Yeltsin invited Mr Blair to visit

Moscow, probably in October. Both Nato and Russia gave way on strongly held positions to forge the historic Act. Nato has finally agreed to re-exam-

ine its "Strategic concept" -which has not been revised since before the break-up of the Soviet Union - to reflect the new landscape of Europe, in which there is no direct threat from the east at the moment. In effect, this could mean the alliance fac-

ing a different direction.

The Russians fought bard to get an undertaking that Nato would not deploy any nuclear weapons on the territory of new member states, or foreign conventional forces. Nato insisted it had no plans to put nuclear weapons there, but refused to promise never to do so. The final wording of the Act stops short of an absolute promise, but says in the strongest terms that Nato members have "no intention, no plan and no reason to deploy nuclear weapons ... and do not foresee any future need to do so."

It also says the alliance will guarantee the new members' security by plans to reinforce them in emergency, rather than hy permanent stationing of troops on their soil.

Nato also gave way a little on its attitude towards the Organisation for Security and Co-op-eration in Europe (OSCE), which Russia said it would prefer to take a lead in European security issues, rather than Nato. The Act promises Nato's support for peace-keeping operations not only carried out under the UN, but also the OSCE.

Russia has moved on two issues. First, the Act will be "politically" binding but not

Yevgeny Primakov pointed out recently, if a treaty is binding,

it is binding.

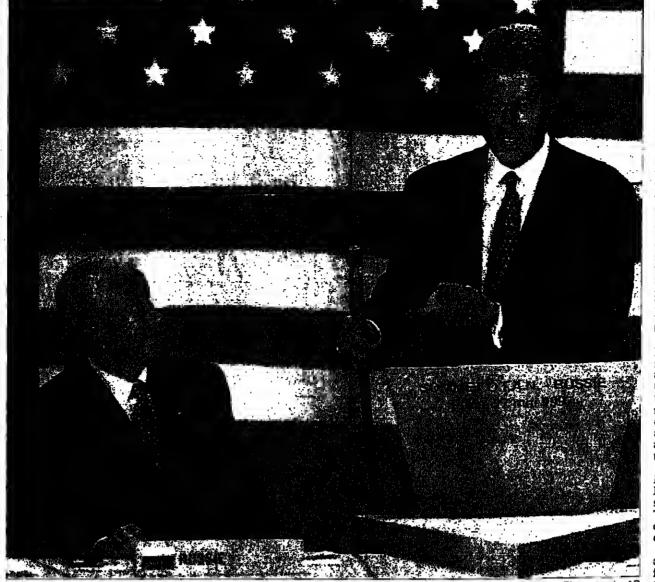
The Russian demand for a veto on Nato decisions bas also been rejected. The Act stresses that neither Nato nor Russia has a right of veto over the actions of the other, nor does it restrict independent deci-sion-making and action.

The newly created Nato-Russia Permanent Joint Council will "provide a mechanism for consultations, co-ordination and, to the maximum extent possible, where appropriate, for joint decisions and joint action". The Permanent Joint Council will be the principal means of consultation. Russia will also establish a mission to Nato headed by an ambassador with a senior military adviser.

The document is in four parts: principles; the mechanism for consultation and co-operation, which outlines the structure of the Joint Council; areas for consultation and co-operation; and the military dimension.

President Yeltsin's announce-

ment that he would order warbeads to be unscrewed from the Strategic Nuclear Forces' missiles caused some confusion, especially as a Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces spokesman said they had no prior knowledge of the announcement. However, Colonel Terry Taylor of the International Institute for Strategic Studies said "de-targeting" agreements had been reached between Russia and the US, France and Britain, and that "legally" hinding as the Russians President Yeltsin was simply had demanded. However, as the Russian Foreign Minister all Nato countries.



Russia balks over Baltic states

Moscow

The applause had barely died down in Paris, nor was the ink dry on the Founding Act, before the ground was being staked out for the next round of international wrangling over the expansion of Nato.

Undeterred by repeated Russian warnings to stay out of former-Soviet republics, the alliance made clear it would make tio such commitment; the Baltics a particularly touchy issue with Moscow - would not be ruled out as future members.

"It is absolutely clear that the Baltic states continue to be eligible for Nato membership," prove their security. hopes to sign a friendship treaty
Jamie Shea, spokesman for
Latvia. Estonia and Lithuawith Russia during Mr Yeltsin's
visit to Kiev on Friday and Sat-

the summit for the signing of the partnership accord.

In the run-up to yesterday's ceremony, Moscow has continued to stress that it would reconsider its relationship with the alliance if it sought to take in former Soviet republics, arguing that this would be tantamount to an unacceptable tbreat to Russia's security.

Before leaving for Paris, President Boris Yeltsin warned that Nato would "fully undermine" its relations with Russia if it expanded to include former Soviet republics. He said he hoped for a "dialogue" with the Baltic States to persuade them that joining Nato would not im-

in Moscow, not least because they include millions of ethnic Russians. There are also strategic and political complications: if, for instance, Lithuania were to join the alliance, along with Poland. Russia's enclave in Kaliningrad would be ringed by

Nato's willingness to endorse their eligibility in public may be largely rhetorical - the Baltics do not seem to bave much chance of membership in the near future - but it will have pleased Es-tonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Nato powers.

After a long period of tense relations with Moscow, the Ukrainian president, Leonid Kuchma, also revealed that be

ficials said documents had been prepared for signing, including some concerning the running dis-pute over the Crimean city of Sevastopol, and the division of the former Soviet Black Sea fleet. Many Russians dispute that Crimea is Ukrainian as it was transferred from Russia only 43

years ago, by Nikita Khrushchev. The visit has been postponed six times in the past few years. The chances of success seemed to fade recently as Kiev began to develop closer ties with Nato, deepening Moscow's sense of isolation. But yesterday, Mr Kuchma said: "I have high hopes of signing a wide-ranging political treaty ... today I like Yeltsin more. He is less influ-enced by political factions now."

goals, mutual promises

Key sections of the "Founding of on mutual relations, co-operation and security between Nato and Federation". the Russian Federation".

Nato and Russia do not consid each other as adversaries. The share the goal of overcoming the vestiges of earlier confrontation and competition ... this con-mitment at the highest political level marks the beginning of fundamentally new relationship between Nato and Russia.

Provisions of this document of not provide Nato or Russia n any way with a right of veto over the actions of the other, nor do they infringe upon or restrict the rights of Nato or Russia to in-dependent decision-making and action. They cannot be used a a means to disadvantage the interests of other states.

In building their relationship. Nato and Russia will focus or specific areas of mutual interes. They will consult and strive to caoperate to the broadest possible degree in the following areas:

... exchange of information and consultation on strategy, dfence policy, the military do-trines of the Russian Federation and Nato nuclear safety issues...

... preventing the proliferation of nuclear, biological and chen-leal weapons ... combating nu-clear trafficking and strengthening co-operation n specific arms control areas... ... developing mutually

agreed co-operative projects in defence-related economic, ervironmental and scientific field ... conducting joint initiatives in civil-emergency preparec-ness and disaster relief ... combating terrorism and drug trafficking

The member states of Nato reiterate they have no intention, no plan and no reason to depky nuclear weapons on the territory of new members ..

Nato and Russia will expand po-litical-military consultations and co-operation through the Per-

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Rescue that shaped post-war world

Fifty years ago the US devised a project to save Europe. **Rupert Cornwell** recalls the Marshall plan

The only quibble can be with the date. It was not 28 May, but 5 June 1947 that General George Marshall, the Secretary of State went to Harvard University to deliver the speech which made his name immortal. But never was a 50th anniversary more deserving than the one to be celebrated by the assembled leaders of Europe and America in Amsierdam today. By any standard the Marshall Plan is remarkable. It was an act of enlightened self interest rare in human history. It set in motion the rebuilding of post-war Europe, and thus helped shape the modern Western world. Like every deed, however, it was a product of its time.

In that spring of 1947, America bestrode the planet as never before or since. Alone on canh the US possessed nuclear weapons. It accounted for 50 per cent of global output. Europe, by contrast, was ravaged and penniless, swathes of it on the brink of starvation. To the east lay a menacing Soviet Union, waiting for the Old Continent to fall into commu-



into action: The Marshall Plan transferred \$13bn of US aid to Europe

nism's lap.
Something had to be done. But only America could do it. For the Truman Administration, the problem was less Stalin than isolationists at home, hostile then as now to entanglement in a Europe which twice in 30

years had dragged the US into wars not of its making. Marshall's pitch, however, was masterly, a uniquely American blend of idealism, anti-communism and self advantage.

of possible terminal breakdown in Europe. Its needs were "so much greater than her present ability to pay that she must bave substantial additional help or face economic, social and po-In the quadrangle of Harvard litical deterioration of a very Yard that June day, he warned grave character." Not only

Photograph: Corbis Bettman/UPI would that cause "disturbances" abroad: "The consequences to

the economy of the United States should be apparent to all." The impact across the Atlantic was enormous. Cleverly, the State Department had fibreathing not a word about the speech to anti-interventionist newspapers like the Chicago Tribune but making sure the British knew well in advance of the huge story on the

And huge it was, wbatever the assertions of revisionist historians that the money dishursed meant little to the US and that Europe would have recovered quickly, with or without largess from Washington.

The Russians and their satellites would stay out. But 16 countries, including today's European Union in its virtual entirety, would participate. Over four years, \$13hn of American help was provided. Britain would receive \$3.2bn, France \$2.7bn, Italy \$1.5bn, and the future West Germany \$1.4bn. The transfer represented around 2 per cent of America's GDP. An equivalent programme today would be worth some \$500bn (£300bn). The consequences of Mar-

shall's speech are all around us. It was the economic prefiguration of Nato, now poised to em-brace, if not Russia itself, at least Poland and Czechoslovakia. Even institutionally, the Plan lives on. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development is daughter of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC), created in 1948 to put Marshall's vision into effect.

significant shorts

Troops search Kashmir valley for hostages' graves

Indian troops are hunting again for the graves of Brilish bostages Keith Mangan and Paul Wells. They launched a massive military combing operation on Monday for the remains of the four Western backpackers who were kidnapped in July 1995 by a dozen separatist gunmen, while on a Himalayan trek in Kashmir.

Suspected grave sites were dug up, according to police sources, in Magan Forest after a captured Harkut ul Ansar militant corroborated an earlier testimony that the four hostages were murdered last December. Officials ordered a search in a wooded area above Kokarnag in the Kashmir valley. It is the same spot that Scotland Yard, the FBI and German canine specialists examined last spring.

Jan McGirk/Mukhtar Ahmed – New Delhi/Srinagar

Egypt revives peace talks

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt said after a summit with Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday that be hoped to bring the Israeli prime minister and the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, together soon. The talks, at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el Sheikh, are believed to have produced some Israeli ideas, but Mr Mubarak doubted whether Mr Netanyahu was yet offering enough. The prime minister declined to say whether Israel would freeze the building of Jewish homes in Arab East Jerusalem. Eric Silver - Sharm el Sheikh

Turkey purges Islamist officers

Following the demands of Turkish generals determined to keep the country secular, the Islamist Prime Minister, Necmettin Erbakan, signed a decree for the expulsion of 141 pro-Islamist officers and 20 others considered extremists, newspapers reported. The decision was taken on Monday when the generals summoned Mr Erbakan for an emergency meeting. The daily Sabah said that among those expelled were 20 officers with left-wing or pro-Kurdish sympathies.

AP - Ankara 141 pro-Islamist officers and 20 others considered



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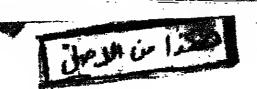
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FLYING

da Regiment has given us God Save the Queen and Bermuda is setting about Barbados in a Rugby World Cup qualifying match. In the VIP tent, Lord Waddington, the former Home Secretary, is enjoying one of his last public appearances as gov-ernor. His is a gin and tonic; most of us are taking bucks fizz.

Lord Waddington may be going - he departed formally at the end of April - but Bermu-da is not. Once Hong Kong is finally relinquished on 30 June, these coral outcrops in the Atlantic with a population of 60,000 will become the largest remaining British dependency. If the sun set long ago over most of the Empire, here, at least, it remains resolutely above the yardarm.

Hamilton — A grand afternoon indeed at the National Sports

Club. The Band of the Bermu-

There is just a chance that Britain's oldest colony - the Bermuda islands were settled after a British ship bound for Virginia under Sir George Somers struck rocks off its eastern end in 1609 - could become Britain's last.

That would be ironic Nowhere else under British rule is more able to go it alone. It has one of the world's highest per capita incomes, levies no income tax, and is a magnet for

THEFFLAG

nesses, especially the insurance industry. It is also a fully-

fledged, multi-party democracy.
What Britain supplies is the
Governor and his funny plumed
hat. (But Bermuda pays for his
salary and costs). London looks after the islands' limited foreign policy and defence concerns. And, of course, it provides a certain quaintness that the mostly American tourists relish: red post boxes, warm Watneys and a hranch of Marks &

But, for now, it seems that most Bermudians, amongst whom the hlack-white ratio is roughly 60-40, prefer to remain under Albion's wing. In a referendum in 1995 the 53 per cent who voted rejected independence by 73 per cent. Even politicians who favour independence predict it may now be 20 years before Bermuda confronts the issue again.

"I don't see independence in Bermuda's foreseeable future, said Jennifer Smith, leader of the opposition Progressive Labour Party (PLP), which has the pursuit of independence enshrined in its constitution.

Continuing a series on Britain's last colonies, **David Usborne** reports from Bermuda

Pamela Gordon, recently installed Premier and leader of the United Bermuda Party (UBP) agreed: "It'll be a while. The referendum is still very fresh; it caused a lot of pain".

Affluent Atlantic jewel jibs

The fallout from the 1995 vote continues to stir the calm waters of Bermudian politics. An early victim was Sir John

Colony facts

Population: 60,500 (1994) Area: 20.59 sq miles

Crown colony since 1684

premier and UBP leader who called the referendum. Upon the results, he was forced to resign. Since then, he has been at the heart of a political soap opera

that might be called Bigmacgate.
Picking himself up from his
demise, Sir John asked for - and got - a licence to open a Mc-Donald's on the island. It was a transaction that reeked of political favour-giving; it also apThe burger debate split the UBP and led to the demise of Sir John's successor, David Saul, two months ago. Now, Ms Gordon is striving to clear the wreckage before the next elections, which must be held by next autumn.

Such turmoil is not Bermuda's style. Indeed, it is the con-servatism of Bermuda that partly explains the dearth of nationalist fervour. In so far as there is any, it exists in the black population and is driven by racial frictions. "Change is dif-ficult for any society and it's no different here," said Premier Gordon. "We like the status quo and there is the feeling that if

it isn't broke, don't try to fix it." The importance to international business of political and economic stability, perceived to be partly derived from the British link, is lost on few

Bermudians. Perhaps Bermuda's most noted corporate catch was Jardine Matheson which stunned the Hong Kong expatriate establishment in 1984 by announcing its intention to restructure itself under a holding company to be registered here.

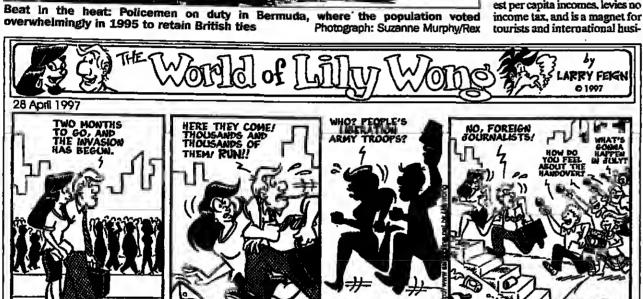
at the cost of independence where secure with a legal envi-roument that was familiar to us, therefore we picked Bermuda," explained Harry Wilken, head of Jardines here. "Bermuda is highly respected in the Far East as a place that is open, where there is not a whiff of corruption." As

for the 1995 referendum, Jar-dines is just glad its over. Among the few speaking up for independence is Walton Brown, a market researcher who heads a group called the Committee for Independence for Bermada. "The will of the people was not allowed to em-

anate - quite clearly they have not spoken," he said. Mr Brown is guided by a feeling simply that "you should govern yourself". He also ques-tions Britain's long-term commitment. "Its old colonies just cannot be of any interest to it in the long term and we have to be ready for that."

Ms Gordon sees behind Bermuda's attachment to Britain a certain sense of satisfaction that Bermuda did not join the many British colonies in the Caribbean when they rushed into independence in the early Sixties and discovered sovereignty was no Nirvana. "Our sisters to the south taught us how not to do it," she said.

Tomorrow: The Falklands



HK dissidents find safe havens

Hong Kong

Chinese dissidents who secured temporary refuge in Hong Kong appear to have found safe havens overseas despite dramatic threats of suicide and other forms of self-injury if they did not receive help from the coloniai government.

Most of the 50 remaining dissidents who were in Hong Kong at the beginning of the year were smuggled out of China by the underground railway known as "Operation Yellowbird". It was established in Hong Kong by supporters of China's democracy movement to help victims of the purge which followed the Tiananmen Square massacre.

It received an unprecedented level of assistance from the Hong Kong government in finding new homes in the West for the dissidents. A senior official said last night: "1 can assure you that practically none of them [the dissidents] would have got out without the con-

siderable help we gave them." However, the imminence of the Chinese takeover has caused a small wave of panic to spread through the dissident commu-

nity, 21 of whose members have found new homes, while another 20 or so are undergoing processing for immigration.

Eight dissidents sent an ultimatum to the Governor, Chris Patten, insisting his administration provide more assistance. However, it appears that some members of the group have turned down offers of resettlement in Europe, preferring to go to North America, while others are having difficulty establishing their credentials as bona fide dissidents.

Asked what the administration was doing to help the dissidents on his return from Lon don, a rather tetchy Mr Patten said he hoped the people who sent the ultimatum "recognise that the way to deal with these sensitive and complicated issues is not by making threats or de-

livering so-called ultimatums". China has not clarified its attitude towards dissidents remaining in Hong Kong after the handover in July. The Chinese government, which misses few opportunities to criticise the colonial government, is silent on this matter, strongly suggesting that it, too, wants the dissidents

INDEPENDENT EXPERIENCES

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Barcelona's greatest monument, Guadi's Sagrada Familia

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The city of Barcelona

Fortine smiles upon Barcelona. The heart of Catalonia was blessed with a spectacular setting. The city is sprinkled along the shore of the Mediterranean, and into the folds of mountains which slide gracefully into the sea. This preposterously pleasant setting has been decorated with wit and audacity. Barcelona is unique.

Barcelona is an easy city to explore with many of the major sights within walking distance of each other. Wandering around and soaking up the streetlife, between regular stopovers in bars and cafes is an enjoyable a way of getting to know the city and is the best way to absorb quintessential

At night, Barcelona erupts with an array of nightlife. Waterfront cafes stay open until 5am, and a host of designer bars and clubs all combine to provide an exotic night life experience.

opened up the city to the sea front and created an impressive and stylish setting which provides a host of choices for the first time visitor to indulge in some al fresco

In stark contrast to Barcelona's modern Olympic facilities is the city's greatest monument, Antonio Guadi's Sagrada Familia. Begun over a century ago and yet to be completed, the Cathedral still reaches it's crescendo above the city.

Artistically, Barcelona has many options. Gaudi, Picasso, Dali and Miro all have strong links with the city. The Meseu Picasso, housed within a Medieval Gothic palace, is a testimony to the years Picasso spent in the city amongst Catalonia's avant garde.

The magical mountain of Tibidabo is the peak that presides over Barcelona, protecting the city from the interior. From the summit where a funfair and the Temple of the Sacred Heart jostle for command, you will experience an extraordinary panorama of an exceptional city.

The cities Olympic revamp of 1992 has

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Nama of hotel	
How many nights do	you wish to stay?
Preferred flight time ((out)
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Signature	Date

The death of Sydney Bidwell hrings to an end a life that was typical of the left-wing activist and organiser of his own and other times. In the days of the revolting sound-bite and whizzkiddery which so disfigure polities now his way of thinking and working are held in no regard whatsoever by those who wouldn't know a pamphleteer and street-corner orator if they found them in their soup.

Like all of us who left school at the age of 14 Bidwell was totally committed to widening the definition of "education" and desperately wanted something better for his own, and the world's, children than what he got for himself. The fact that he was born to a family where his father was a carpenter on the old Great Western Railway was a source of pride to him. "A time-served craftsman/tradesman" was the aim of every worker and also of working-class families. The claim of God's Wonderful Railway was always a matter of intense curiosity to the rest of us . . . not to a rail-wayman or his family though.

Syd started work as a van boy on the GWR and rose through the ranks there (as shunter, marshaller and goods guard) and through his union (the NUR). However, despite his closeness to the General Secretary, Sid Greene, he never won election to any executive thanks to the combined efforts of the right wing and the Communist Party, who resented his membership of the Revolutionary Commu-nist Party, the Trotskyite wing.

After 20 years, he left the railways to become a Tutor/Organiser for the National Council of Labour Colleges (NCLC) and like many people from similar backgrounds knew the width of interest of working people and helped organise appropri-ate courses and lectures in London and the Home Counties. In 1964 the NCLC was taken over by the TUC, and Bidwell became the London Regional Education Officer for the TUC.

He fought parliamentary elections in 1959 in East Herts and 1964 in South Herts, and in 1966 succeeded George Pargiter as Lahour MP for his native Southall, in Middlesex, Again his affection and pride in his own family was palpable as his father had been a founder - if

not the founder - of Southall Labour Club.

It did not need the fact that

Southall had a large Asian com-munity to see Bidwell enter the battle against racism strongly. He, to his eternal credit, was at the forefront of the response to the dockers and meat porters who marched to the Commons in support of Enoch Powell in 1968, after his inflammatory speech on the dangers of immigration, and he played an honourable role in this whole field. Having been present at the riot in Red Lion Square in which the student Kevin Gately was killed in the 1960s, Bidwell came forward to give evidence to the Scarman Tribunal. In 1976 he saw through Parliament a 10minute hill exempting Sikhs from wearing crash helmets on motorbikes - this was contrary to their faith, which required them to wear a turban. Other

Bidwell was the only member of the Select Committee on Race Relations to serve for the whole of its existence. He visited India, the West Indies and the United States to gain a hroader racial perspective, and wrote a book. Red, White and Black (1976), on the subject.

countries followed suit.

He chaired the London Committee of the Movement for Colonial Freedom and served as Chairman of the Trihune Group in the Commons hut, again, parted company with others on the Left over the Common Market. He claimed that the Left's opposition offended his internationalism: we argued back that it would be the ruination of any hopes of the internationalism we all shared and tried to live our lives by.

He was deeply knowledgeable about Labour history in the widest possible sense of that term long before the Oral History Movement came into being. Again to his credit, he never attempted to rewrite the events and characters of Labour history as have some published diarists who for unfathomable reasons are always chosen to speak on it, and whose versions are accepted without question.

In 1992 there was a long-running and turbulent reselection battle which Bidwell finally lost. The NEC turned a blind eye to the irregularities he and others perceived to have been allowed to get him out. Bidwell stood as The True Labour Candidate in protest, and there was widespread concern in the Labour Party that he should have done so. This led to his exclusion from the party.

The truth behind what happened and also the bypassing of the rules to readmit him to the party not long afterwards are for another place and another time, hut since they have many parallels today the truth will emerge.

Whenever my husband, Norman Buchan (the Labour MP for Paisley South from 1983 until his death in 1990), and I urged everyone to listen to the songs and jokes generated by strikes, demonstrations and so on, but particularly at elections, Bidwell clearly thought we were at best frivolous and at worst absolutely nuts. When the Red Review group came together and enlivened the end of party conferences and the audience clearly delighted in their savaging of the Pretentious Tendency (worse than Militant any day) and sang and sang with them, we

Never mind - even with the ruthlessly drilled and excluding team in charge at the moment there were two songs around of which audiences at either end of the country roared their approval; and the words of which spent time faxing all over the place to lift the spirits of those whose long efforts to secure a Labour government are of long standing and were often at considerable personal loss. We shall keep the memory of people like Syd Bidwell in a true way if we refuse to be swept below the carpet or anywhere else.

still couldn't enlist him.

He loved politics and argument. He loved painting, the game of football and his wife. Daphne, and his family were the centre of his being. He practised what he preached; a bit more of that nowadays would not go

Janey Buchan

Sydney James Bidwell, trades unionist and politician: born Southall. Middlesex 14 January 1917; member, Southall Borough Council 1951-55; MP (Labour) for Southall 1966-74, for Ealing. Southall 1974-92; married 1941 Daphne Peart (one son, one daughter); died Hillingdon, Middlesex 25 May 1997.



'True Labour': Bidwell, right, campaigning in Southall in 1974

Tommy Turrentine

The trumpeter Tommy Turrentine never achieved the fame which is still enjoyed by his saxophone-playing brother Stanley. Their father, Thomas Turrentine, played saxophone with Al Cooper's Savoy Sultans opted for the trumpet in his early teens.

He was born in 1928, in Pittshurgh. By the time he was 18 he was a good enough musician to join Benny Carter's hig band and two years later he was touring with George Hudson's orchestra in a line-up which included the future Count Basie arranger Ernie Wilkins and the

pianist Fritz Jones, who later changed his name to Ahmad Jamal.

Turrentine worked with the big hands of Billy Eckstine and Dizzy Gillespie and in 1951 he was briefly with Count Basie. small group led by the saxo-phonist and wocalist Gay Crosse which also included a young John Coltrane. Then in 1953 John Coltrane. Then in 1953
both Turrentine brothers were

His work on the pianist Sonny Clark's Leapin' and Lopin' employed by Earl Bostic, They were given no solos hut were present on some of Bostic's major selling records such as Off

was in the 1960s. After working as a member of the drummer Max Roach's sextet in 1959 and 1960 he became a busy freelance musician based in New York. He was called upon to play on several important sesfor the Blue Note company following appearances on record with Roach and the

singer Abhey Lincoln. (1961) drew critical praise and Blue Note were quick to employ his talents on further LPs under the leadership of the pianist Horace Parlan, the organist John Turrentine's highest profile Patton, the alto-saxophonist

with his brother Stanley on Jubile: Shout. But, apart from one occasion when he fronted the Max Roach Sextet under his own name for the Time Label Scott and programmes of tunes tlater re-issued by the Bain-slanted at a wider audience, so bridge company), he was not Tommy Turrentine's public imcalled upon to act as a leader himself.

Early in 1964 he worked briefly in the "Five Spot" cluh in New York with an ephemeral Charlie Mingus group but his appearances on record were sparse. The avant-garde savophonist Archie Shepp chose range of the instrument and him as a partner for his Mama possessed the ability to create

Jackie McLean and Lou Don- Too Tight album made for the aldson, as well as pairing him off Impulse label in 1966, but such engagements were few and far between. As his brother's popularity increased, by way of records with the organist Shidey ations of younger men who convention. age faded. One of his lastknown recording sessions was with the orchestra pianist Sun

Ra in the Eighties. As a trumpet soloist Turrentine had all the qualities necessary for greatness. He had a full, warm tone throughout the possessed the ability to create York 13 May 1997.

solos using long unbroken lines. His flair for melodic improvisation using long climaxes often contrasted sharply seemed anxious to brush aside For a man of his stature he

is not well represented on record today, hut that does not lessen the impact of his passing.

Alun Morgan

Thomas Walter Turrentine, trum peter. born Piusburgh, Pennsylvania 22 April 1928; died New

John Guest

Exploring cultures in remote places was John Guest's passion. Here he followed the example of his great-uncle the archaeologist Sir Henry Layard, who in the 1840s had discovered the Bulls of Nineveh. In 1976 Guest retraced La-

yard's footsteps to a tribe of "devil worshippers" known as the Yezidis, who had nursed the hook *The Yezidis*, published in sick foreigner back to health. He found the descendants of the Yezidis in a remote village in eastern Turkey called Kurukavak. The villagers recalled stories of a strange Englishman who had stayed in their village and were intrigued by his great-

So began a long association with Turkey. When he provided running water to Kurukavak he became an honoured figure
on arrival he would he lifted

on to the shoulders of the locals to cries of "John Guest! John Guest! John Guest!" He had a fountain erected in the village in memory of Layard. Later. back in the United States. Guest traced the strange history of the tribe, who believe in the forgiveness and restoration 1987 and republished during the Gulf War under the title Survival Among the Kurds.

Guest became a leading scholar in Middle Eastern history and a second book, The Euphrates Expedition, was published in 1992. A further book on the early images of the Middle East, The Ancient Road, will be published later this year.

John Guest was an only child and acquired resilience and



independence from an early age. His mother died when he was four years old and, while his father, Lt-Col the Hon Henry Guest, along with three of his brothers, followed their father (the first Viscount Wimhorne)

Chief Constable, Devon and Corn-

wall, 75; Miss Carroll Baker, actress,

into Parliament, John hecame a King's Scholar at Eton and later managing director of er graduated BA and MA in Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb Economics from Trinity College. Cambridge.
His innate enthusiasm and

energy was caught when young hy the promise and informality he found in the US. He first visited in 1933 at the age of 20 and he returned two years later to obtain his MBA from Harvard University. On graduating, he joined the investment hank-ing firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co in Wall Street, where he remained throughout all the firm's reincarnations, until his refirement in 1989.

Guest brought to the world of finance a clear mind, a prodigious memory and above all a sense of fairness. These qualities secured him challenging tasks and great success. As

partner of Kuhn. Loch & Co Inc. his expertise was in transportation. He was instrumental in the restructuring of Penn Central Railroad and was sent to Hong Kong to rescue the failing shipping empire of the future Governor of Hong Kong.

Tung Chee-hwa.

During the Second World War, Guest served in the British army in the US, the Middle East and Italy. His linguistic talents were put to use in intelligence work. As a young man he had hoarded the Trans-Siherian Railway with no knowledge of Russian and at the end of his journey, one week later, he had taught himself enough to converse easily with his fellow passengers.

John Guest was also an ath-

lete. From his summer house is Fisher's Island. New England, he would begin each day with a hracing swim in the Atlantic. He loved beagling and took up wind-surfing at the age of 70. He once surfed to a friend's yacht for dinner, arriving Bond-like in full hlack tie.

But, in spite of his energy, charm and success, Guest remained a modest, gentle family man. He married Margaret Houck in 1948 and they had two children; his wife dicd within days of his death.

Revel Guest

John Spencer Churchill Guest banker, traveller and writer. born London 14 May 1913; mar-ried 1948 Margaret Houck (one son, one daughter); died New Canaan, Connecticut 14 May 1997.

Albert Rosen

Albert Rosen, a naturalised Irish citizen, was for many years chief conductor of the Radio Telefis Eireann Symphony Orchestra in Dublin, which later became the National

Symphony Orchestra. He was also chief conductor of the Smetana Theatre in Prague and of the West Australian Orchestra in Adelaide and Perth. He conducted the Welsh National, Scottish and English National Operas; the San Francisco, Vancouver and San Diego Operas, and the Dublin Grand Opera Society.

But for most British opera lovers it was his 30-year connection with the Wexford Festival that constituted his chief claim to fame. At Wexford between 1965 and 1994 he directed the RTE SO in around 20 different works by composers as diverse as Rossini, Donizetti and Giordano; Smetana, Dvorak and Janacek, Cornelius, Marschner and Humperdinck.

Albert Rosen was born in Vi-enna of Czech/Austrian parentage. He studied first at the Prague Conservatory, then at the Vienna Academy of Music, where he studied composition with Joseph Marx and conducting with Hans Swarowsky. In 1965, he was appointed chief conductor of the Smetana Theatre in Prague, where he conducted repertory works such as Carmen, Tosca, Madama Butterfly and Il Trovatore, as well as Lohengrin, Don Carlos, Prokofiev's The Gambler and operas by Martinu and Janacek. 1965 was also the year that he first conducted at Wexford. making his début with Massenet's Don Quichotte, and he followed that in 1966 with Donizetti's Lucrezia Borgia, and in 1967 with Rossini's Otello.

Rosen hecame chief conductor of the RTE SO in 1969. Throughout the 1970s, he returned with the orchestra to Wexford, conducting Janacek's Kniya Kabanova, The Gambler, Cornelius's Der Barbier von Bagdad, Britten's The Tion of the Screw and Smeiana's The Two Widows (which he later conducted for Scottish Opera). Though he obviously felt a particular sympathy for works by Czech composers, Rosen's wide musical interests allowed him to ohtain a triumph with The Turn of the Screw, not the kind of opera normally appreciated by the Wexford audience, who at that time preferred Italian and French works.

During the next decade Rosen's Wexford reportory widened still further, to include Alfano's Salauntala, Marschner's Hans Heiling and Der Templer und die Jüdin, Catalani's La Walby, Humperdinck's Königskinder and Giordano's La cena delle Dublin 22 May 1997.

heffe. During the same period he also conducted Smetana's The Kiss and Dvorak's The Devil and Kate at Wexford, as well as Dvorak's The Jacobin for Welsh National Opera, Smetana's The Bartered Bride for Scottish Opera, and Katya Kabanova and Rimsky-Korsakov's Christmas Eve for English National Opera. The last-named work, a real novelty, was particularly enjoyable. In 1990 the RTE SO was en-

larged and split into two, be-coming the National Symphony Orchestra and the RIE Concert Orchestra. Rosen continued to give many concerts with the NSO, as he had done with the RTE SO. tackling huge works such as Messiaen's Turangalila and Mahler's Eighth Symphony, as well as the normal repertory. In 1992, the orchestra toured Germany, visiting 10 different cities. With the DGOS, then at a low ebb financially, he scored a tremendous success with Die Fleder-



Rosen: Wexford repertory

naus, which he conducted with that elusive rubato that only the Viennese-born seem to be able to achieve. He also conducted several operas in Prague, in-cluding Rossini's L'Italiana in Algeri. He even found time to visit North America, conducting Jenufa in San Francisco, Salome in Vancouver and Dvorak's Rusalka in San Diego (1995).

Rosen's last visits to Wexford included operas by Mascagni and Leoncavallo - not however Cavalleria rusticana and Pagliacci, but lesser-known works: 11 piccolo Marat by the former in 1992 and La Bohème by the latter in 1994. Leoncavallo's Bohème, a good opera inevitably overshadowed by Puccini's version, was one of the finest performances conducted by Albert Rosen in all his years at Wexford. Rosen returned to Dublin this month to conduct a concert. which in the event he had to cancel.

Elizabeth Forbes

Albert Rosen, conductor: born Vienna 14 February 1924; died

September 1984).

It was almost a decade later

that the Independent itself pub-

lished an account (26 April

1994) confirming our claims

from the far side of the Cold

War divide. You reported that.

according to Gunther Bohnsack

-who spent 26 years in the Ac-

tive Measures Department of

Brigadier Michael Harbottle

The suggestion by Linda series of direct links running Melvern [obituary, 14 May] from the Generals for Peace at the bottom to the Politburo at bottle's Generals for Peace and the top" (Daily Telegraph, 25 Disarmament were unjustly maligned does not stand up to scrutiny, writes Julian Lewis.

In September 1984, the former Foreign Office ministers Lord Chalfont and Sir Peter Blaker, together with myself, published the results of our detailed research into the group.

Without the protection of parliamentary privilege, we de-scribed Generals for Peace as intimately linked with the World Peace Council and other organs of the Soviet propaganda machine". For example, the key figure behind its formation and co-ordination was Dr Gerhard Kade - a very senior cog in the Soviet "peace" machine - and half of its founder

our statement that there was "a came as no surprise at all.

members belonged to the notorious World Peace Council. None of us received so much as a solicitor's letter from

East German intelligence -"Generals for Peace was conceived, organised and financed hy the Stasi . . . This created a real power that was in line with Moscow's ideas . . . and we always controlled this through our intelligence services in Moscow and East Berlin."

To those of us who recalled the Generals' launch of a threehour film about themselves in 1986, in the presence of that "champion of peace" Erich Honccker, the role of the Stasi Brigadier Harbottle, despite in orchestrating their group

Dr James Foster, vet, died Kigali, Rwanda 10 May, aged 68. Worked with the late Dian Fossey to save gorillas in Africa.

Yoram Ronen, broadcaster, died 27 May, aged 64. Radio journalist who was one of the founders

of Israeli Television in 1977.

BIRTHS

GWYN PALMER: On 20 May 1997, to Juliet (nee Van Oss) and Robert, a second daughter. Syrie Favell. DEATHS

HODGES: Henry W.M., Emeritus Pro-

HO DGES: Henry W.M., Emeritus Pro-fessor of Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art. Queen's Univer-sity, Kingston, Outario, Secretary General, International Institute for Conservation 1988-94. Died 19 May 1997. A Service of Thankseiving for his life will be held at Si Bartholomew's Church. Burwash. East Suesex on Thursday 5 June at 2.30pm No flowers please, Enquiries to Funeral Directors: C. Waterbouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash. Tele-phone 01435 SS2219.

paone O(xx) SE219.

LAYBOURN's Kenneth, of Gilling West.
North Yorkshire, died 23 May aged
88 years, Dearly loved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, Cremation
private, Burial of ashes at St. Agatha's,
Gilling Saturday 7 June at 2.30pm,
Donations if washed to the Children's Society.

MEMORIAL SERVICES HARTLEY: Sir Frank, CBE DSc PhD CChem FRSC PRPharmS FIC Hon FRCP Hon FRCS Hon FRSC Hon

Births, Marriages & Deaths

LLD, Dean of the School of Pharmacy 1962-76, Vice-Chancellor of the Uni-versity of London 1976-78. There will be a Memorial Service for Sir Frank Hartley on Wednesday 9 July 1997 at St George's Church, Bloomsbury Way, Bloomsbury, London WC1, commencing at 2.50pm. For further information please telephone the Clerk's Office, The School of Phar-macy, U71-753 5816. macv, Ut 71-753 5816.

Announcements for Gazetic BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazetic Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2010 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a Une (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra.

Birthdays Professor John Alderson, farmer

65; Mr Albert Booth, former government minister, 69; Professor Patrick Boulter, consultant surgeon, 70: Miss Faith Brown, impressionist. 50: Sir Gerald Cash, former Governor-General, the Bahamas, St; Sir Edward du Cann, former chairman, Lonrhn, 73; Mrs Liz Edgar, showjumper, 54; Sir Robert Evans, former chairman, British Gas, 70; Sir Reginald Eyre, solicitor and former MP, 73; Mr Dietrich Frecher-Dieskau, baritone, 72; Lord Goold, company director and former chairman, Royal Sconish Orchestra, 63; Dame Thora Hird, actress, 86; Miss Sue Holderness, actress, 48; Mr Norman Ireland. former chairman. BTR, 70; Miss Rachel Kempson, actress, 87: Professor Gyorgy Ligeti, composer, 74; Mr Alan McLintock, former chairman, Woolwich Building Soci-ety, 72: Mr Frank Middlemass, actor, 78: Mr Raymond Miquel, former

• • • •

Appeal 64; Dr Charles Saumarez Smith, Director, National Portrait Gallery, 43; Mr Wolfgang Schneiderhan, violinist, 82; Mr Edward Sen-ga, former prime minister of Jamnica, 67; Mr Julian Slade, composer, 67; Mr Richard Van Allan, operatic bass and director, 62; Sir Gordon Walstenholme, physician, 84.

Anniversaries

Births: Joseph-Ignace Guillotin, physician and politician, 1738; William Pitt the Younger, statesman, 1759; Thomas Moore, poet and mu-sician. 1779; William Miller, lineengraver. 1796; Joseph Dessauer, composer. 1798; Louis Jean Rodolphe Agassiz, naturalist, 1807; Giovanni Sgambati, planist and com-poser, t84t: Sir Clough Williams-Elis, architect and town planner, 1883; Edvard Benes, statesman, 1884; Ian Lancaster Fleming, author and creator of "James Bond", 1908; the Dionne Quintuplets (Cecilie, Yvonne, Annette, Emilie and chairman, Scottish Sports Council, 66; Marie 1, 1934, Deaths: Lanfranc, Sir Philip Otton, a Lord Justice of Archbishop of Canterbury, 1089;

Jan van der Meer (Jan Vermeer van Haarlem the Younger), painter, buried 1705; Pierre Subleyras. painter. 1749; Luigi Boccherini, cellist and composer, 1805; Noah Webster, lexicographer, 1843; Anne Bronte, novelist, 1849; John Russell, first Earl Russell, statesman, 1878; Charles Pritchard, astronomer, 1893; François-Louis Français, painter, 1897; Sir George Grove, engineer and first director of the Royal College of Music, 1900; Walter Souterkee, figure and genre painter. 1908; Sir John Lubbock. first Baron Avebury. banker and author, 1913; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, 1937; Edward, Duke of Windsor, former king, 1972; Jese Iturbi, pianist and film actor, 1980; Eric Morecambe (Eric Bartholomew), comedian, 1984. On this day: Hurnando de Soto lauded in Florida, 1539; the English defeated the Duich at the Battle of Southwold Bay, 1672; the Treaty of Bucharest was signed, making peace between Russia and Turkey, 1812: in Rome. Michele Schirru, an American, at-

Zee became an inland lake (as the lisselmeer) after a dyke was built conneering north Holland with Friesland. 1932; Neville Chamberlain became Prime Minister, 1937; the Belgian Army surrendered to the Germans. 1940; the Buttle of Narvik started, 1940; the first London production of the musical Givs and Dolls was pre-sented, 1953; the first London production of the musical Lock Up Your Daughers was presented, 1959; the Orient Express train, Paris-Bucharest, ceased running after 78 years, 1961; Francis Chichester arrived home at Plymouth after his round-the-world voyage, 1967. Today is the Feast Day of St Germanus of Paris. St Ignatius of Rostov, St Justus of Urgel, St Senator of Milan and St William of Gellone.

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Seldom Seen (4): Turner: Crossing the Brook". Ipm; David Bomford (Slade Lecture), "Positivism and Picture Cleaning", 6.30pm. shot dead himself, 1931; the Zuider Victoria and Albert Museum: Max-

ine Smitheram, "Women's Underwear from the Mid-t8th Century Onwards7, 2,30pm. Tate Gallery: Georgia Bottinelli, "A Reactionary Revolution: Boccioni's

Unique Forms of Continuity in Space",

Gardeners' Company

The Worshipful Company of Gardeners held a Court Meeting at the Barber Surgeons' Halt yesterday, at which the following officers were elected for the year commencing 3 July 1997: R.P. Frunklin, Master, J.F. Palmer, Upper Warden; Canon P. De-laney, Renter Warden. The Rev Paul Turp, Vicar of St Lennard's, Shoreditch, afterwards delivered the Fairchild Lecture at the Annual Guild Service, which was held at St Giles, Cripplegate. A reception and supper followed at the Barber Surgeons' Hall:

Appointments

Mr Victor Henderson, to be Ambassadar to the Republic of Yemen. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Prince of Wales, Patron, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, attends the Patron's Dinner at St James's Palace.

Patron's Dinner at St James's Palace. The Princess Royal opens the Aberdeen Automated Processing Centre, Royal Mail, Altens, Abendeen; visits the Sea Cadet Headquarters. Stouchaven, Kincardineshire; visits Maritime Rescue International Ltd, The Old Pier, Stouchaven. Kincardineshire; visits Macphie of Glenbervie Ltd, Glenbervie, Kincardineshire; visits St Machats Academy, Aberdeen; and as President, Save the Children Fund, attends a Private Appeal Dinner at the Royal Nonhern and University Club, Aberdeen. The Duke of Keaf, Patron, the Covent Garden Festival, anends a performance of Handel's Artodante. St Clement Danes Church, London EC4.

Changing of the Guard

The Household Cavairy Mounted Reg-iment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham: 1st Battalion Scots Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards.

The LAW REPORT resumes with the Law Term, on Tuesday 3 June.

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Hard cases indeed, but existing law can cope

and cases make a bad basis for changes in the law. Difficult gets more air-play and newspaper coland sometimes barrowing cases involving fertility, abortion, surrogacy, same sex adoption – and they bave come in a welter in the past few days - have so far made no compelling case

even for a review of existing law.

Take, first, the Kellys. As a manoeuvre in a messy divorce, the busband turned to the courts to fight with his wife. The immediate argument was about whether she should carry their baby to term, but it must be clear to any onlooker that all kinds of other issues lay outside those that the court was being asked to resolve. The father has now changed his mind, which is good, and we should be glad that he came to his senses - but it was not before a motley crew of tabloid newspapers, the Cardinal Arcbbishop of Glasgow and abortion rights activists had clambered on to the wagon. As for the Scottish judges, it looks as though they have gone fishing in a legal pool most Eng-lish lawyers had considered closed for the duration of the 1967 Abortion Law Reform Act. Nothing has emerged that suggests that the basic clause of that Act - termination of pregnancy shall be decided by a woman in consultation with two doctors - has suddenly become unambiguous.

The same can broadly be said of the excitements surrounding surrogacy. When we strip away the hype (and the

umn inches over holiday weekends than at other times) the question boils down to whether existing British law is inadequate to cope with what may be a growing number of people wanting to acquire children by means of unrelated women's wombs. The answer is: case not proven, and that is not for the cowardly reason that instigating a review of surrogacy or adoption law would some-how be "dangerous". The stance adopted by Tessa Jowell, Minister for Health, is apposite: come to me, she said, with instances that look as if they expose the limitations of the present law, and I will look at them.

Because of its exotic circumstances. the case of two gay men with disabilities seeking a surrogate mother through the gay press has attracted under-standable attention. "Exotic" only implies exceptional and unusual; all the more reason for not generalising on the basis of these particulars. As things stand there is nothing to stop these men being considered candidates to foster or adopt. Elaborate assessment procedures exist, involving, it is true, a wide exercise of professional discretion by social workers and judgements by lay panel members. There are some children, on the books of such agencies as Parents for Children, who might be bappier or better cared for by gay, disabled men, in comparison with a life in



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

institutional care. The law puts the weifare of the child at the centre of proceedings, which is how it should be.

Say these gay men find a woman willing to be impregnated and carry a child to term. They could seek to evade the regulatory regime rum by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, by not using a registered clinic. If they did use such a clinic, the HFEA would require a parental order before the child were handed over, and they would not get one, since the law requires parents of different gender. If

for all official purposes; she could "give" it to them, but that transfer would have no legal meaning. If they then sought its adoption, the rigorous adoption procedures would kick in.

Behind all this lies a principle of law which is also a matter of common sense: the child's well-being depends on there being someone identifiably responsible for it. That must, in the first instance, be the birth mother. If she cedes that responsibility, it should pass only under close legal supervision to a named other person, prepared to take they did not use the official procedure on the work of a lifetime. There is not, the child would, in law, be its mother's nor should there be, any legal prohibition on that other person being gay or disabled, provided they possess the humanist principles that the Departattributes of effective potential par-

But that is not the same as giving offi-cial encouragement to gay adoption or surrogacy, or providing scarce National Health Service resources to gay couples wanting, for example, sperm counts. Same-sex union is a happy and acceptable part of our society, and is gradually developing recognition and acceptance in a multitude of ways. But wbatever else it may be, a homosexual or lesbian marriage very obviously precludes beterosexual procreation. How can gays and lesbians demand public assistance to help them achieve something that their sexuality specifically denies? It defies logic.

That does not mean that gay people cannot be good parents; of course they can be, and many are. And it is certainly open to them to point to the evidence of heterosexuals who are demonstrably worse parents. But the state's business, in this context, is to decide what is an appropriate way to spend tax resources. Would it really be so harsh for a cash-strapped public health service, which all the time makes utilitarian judgements, to argue that such arrangements lie outside the realm of state support?

The modern British state cannot enforce a morality, at least one with content any more specific than the

humanist principles that the Department for Education and Employment has just endorsed. But moral neutrality is not at all the same as giving encouragement to arrangements, especially those for the nurture and upbringing of children, which are at best experimental. Doctors, social workers and guardians ad litem are all agents of the state in matters of child care. They need guidance on how to make judgements with consistency and fairness.

The Bill and Tony show

After charming Boris Yeltsin, it was no surprise that in their first meeting since Labour's victory Tony Blair should get on famously with President Cimton. Hobnohbing at international events such as yesterday's is part of what prime ministers do, and Mr Blair is shaping up as a great showman - in the best sense. But he must not confuse the glitter for substance nor start comparing himself with Bill Clinton. American presidents spend time on foreign affairs because the United States is a superpower, but also because their room for manoeuvre domestically is limited. Mr Blair's is not, so let us hope be does not become summit-struck.

Pool resources for better ME treatment

Sir: Suzanne Moore's article ("The sir: Suzanne Moore's article (1 ne secret fears of the ME generation", 23 May) made much needed and serious points on bow we view illness and put into perspective the genuine progress that has been made in understanding ME. She points to the deep-rooted prejudice that exists within society against any illness that bas to do with the brain, which people still construe quite wrongly to mean that "it is all in the mind"

Nothing could be less true. As we come to understand the complexity of the brain, we understand the biological origin of the multitude of disorders. These are not "in the mind", they are as physical as any other illness. Yet this stigma still persists – despite the best efforts of science and the Royal College of Psychiatrists. The psychiatrist Dr Simon Wessely has been vocal in his support for the recognition of ME as a real rather than an imagined illness - a view expressed in the latest edition of the magazine I Understanding Stress, Anxiety and Depression. His work and that of others has produced striking evidence of dysregulation of brain bormones in many sufferers. These discoveries make one hope that ME, like depression and anxiety, will now be better recognised by GPs-treatments will become more effective, and sufferers afforded more compassion.

Those who bave fought hard to get ME recognised should now get together and pursue the serious business of medicine and science, putting funds and resources together. Within the ME debate it is high time to bury the hatchet of mind/body dualism for ever. RICHARD HORNSBY

Understanding Stress, Anxiety and Depression London SWI

Sir: Suzanne Moore wonders why people with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (or ME) will not accept that their illness may have a psychological cause, when complaints of stress are sounding all around them and "so many of us feel so sick and tired of life".

It is precisely this attitude - that someone who retreats from a husy life because of a mysterious bealth problem is a victim of a subconscious desire to lighten their schedule - that exasperates those people with ME who know that they were enjoying their lives before becoming ill, and who believe themselves capable of deploying less drastic coping

strategies for a full diary.

Despite Ms Moore's assurance to the contrary, the psychiatrists' explanation for CFS is an insult. And for someone trying to bold on to their self-confidence in difficult circumstances, sympathy is no

substitute for respect.

For a lot of people with ME, the story seems to be of a premature return to a busy lifestyle after a virus. What motivates this reluctance to recuperate properly is, of course, a mix of personal circumstance, personality and culture. So any purely physical explanation of the ME "epidemic" is, indeed, unfinished. But any psychological one that uses fear and unhappiness as its foundation is misdirected, and arrogantly so.
CM CARDIFF

Sir: Of course psychological illnesses are real. The reason that

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •



ME sufferers (myself included) become infuriated by the suggestion that ME is in the mind is not in order to denigrate the very real trauma and suffering of psychological illnesses but because if ME is an organic illness, treatment by psychiatrists will be unhelpful and use up precious time and money that could be devoted to sensible research.

There is evidence that ME is organic. Tests have shown ME sufferers have abnormalities in neuro-hormonal function, especially in the mid-brain and hypothalamus, impaired blood flow to the brain and altered red blood.

cell shape populations
ME is far more than just lethargy. Symptoms include flu-like malaise with profound fatigue, dizziness, distressing neurological problems, blurred vision, disturbed sleep, muscle fatigue, muscle pain and vulnerability to infections.

Surely ME can now move away from woolly hypothesising and into the domain of intelligent research that its sufferers have so long waited for. MELISSA VINEY London SW15

Deportation: the harm to families

Sir: Since 1993 the courches have been expressing concern over families or family members facing deportation, particularly where the family has been resident in Britain for at least five years, with a child or children more than two years old. The Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland

supports an "amnesty" for such

We were therefore disappointed to learn that on 8 May, one week after the election.

despite representations from the Churches Commission for Racial Justice, a father wbo bas two British children with a partner who has the right to remain in the UK was deported to Nigeria. We accept that this man's immigration record was poor. He had been told to leave the UK in 1987 and had not done so. However the partner and children

who are left behind will suffer as

much as he will, if not more. The European Convention of Human Rights, to which Britain is a signatory and which Labour has said will be incorporated into British law, says in Article 8: "everyone has the right to respect for their private and family life". The Home Office says that by offering the mother and children a free trip to Nigeria it is

fulfilling that obligation. We cannot accept this.
There are a number of such families facing deportation.
Parents are living in fear, children are anxious and depressed. We were pleased to see Jay Khadka from Nepal being allowed to stay, but we plead with the Government to find a new way of dealing with families with children born here. Perhaps a tribunal should be set up, and if such people have evaded immigration law they may have to pay a fine, or - better still -

undertake community service. But

let not the punishment so greatly

outweigh the crime. And let us

have this father back to join his children as soon as possible. Rt Rev ROY WILLIAMSON Bishop of Southwark

Rt Rev RÍCHARD HARRIES Bishop of Oxford Rt Rev ROGER SAINSBURY Bishop of Barking Rt Rev JOHN AUSTIN Bishop of Aston Rt Rev JOHN SENTAMU

Bishop of Stepney Church Commission for Racial London SEI

Poor planning for mobile phones

Sir: Your editorial (24 May) omitted one important issue, that of the environmental impact of mobile phones.

Take a drive round the M25 and you cannot fail to notice the multitude of unsightly aerial towers which have spronted during the past 15 years to service the needs of this growth industry. The towers are said to number some 8,000 at present, and are still increasing. These structures may be

acceptable in uninhabited regions beside motorways, but to ensure 90+ per cent coverage some must be sited in rural areas. To facilitate this the last government considerably relaxed planning regulations, to the extent that a tower of 15 metres could be constructed without planning permission, and issued guidelines advising local planners to be "alive to the special needs and

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056;

e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

technical problems of telecommunications development", which the DOE have stated "should prevail over the normal planning policies which militate against nappropriate development". Local authorities can refuse permission for a structure that they consider unsuitable, but are reluctant to do so since their decisions have tended to be overruled by the DOE on appeal. CECIL and CHRISTINE HARDY Ashford, Kent

Sir: Any legislation to ban use of mobile telephones by motorists would be another example of kneejerk lawmaking on the back of quite justified public sympathy for an innocent motorist killed. The point about this recent case is that the driver using the phone was not just using a phone; he was also careless. Many thousands of innocent phone users should not be penalised for the few who are guilty. PAUL SPENCER Barkham, Berkshire

Courts will settle Camelot case

Sir: Your article "Camelot TV claims rejected" (22 May) was incorrect, as it implied that the Branson allegation had been dealt with by the Broadcasting Standards Commission. The allegation was not dealt with, as it is the subject of libel proceedings which are still to be heard. Further, you ignored the fact that the BBC did not escape criticism as, in some respects, the

of fund-holding

Sir: 1 write as the retired senior partner of a non-fund-holding practice, in response to your article GP's £513,000 expansion raises

that savings on this notional budget (mainly through reduced prescribing costs) could be transferred to "other aspects of patient care". These include the employment of health care personnel and the provision of improved buildings for patient

Bearing in mind the fact that buildings become the property of the doctors concerned, and may be sold on retirement to their own financial advantage, GPs are faced the Conservative government to entice GPs towards fund-holding. Is it a wonder that some may take advantage of the situation? We are

Whilst sorting out the mess the NHS is in, the new Labour government should act quickly to abolish this conflict of interest by making it impossible for any saving from the fund-holding budget to be used to enhance GPs' equity. Dr A C MARKUS

Commission agreed that it would have been preferable to have treated the issues differently. LOUISE WHITE Head of Public Affairs Camelot Group London SWI

The human cost

fear over profits" (26 May). When fund-holding was introduced, it was generously funded. In addition GPs were told

with a clear conflict of interest. This arrangement was a cynical move by all human, and have our price.

Thame, Oxfordshire

over County Hall again", 24 May). But if "Britain deserves better" then so does London. This election saw a revolution in Parliament which is now, for the

New Labour,

Sir: I feel excited and relieved at

the prospect of an authority for London ("The red flag could fly

new mayor

first time, made up of people wbo share the language, experiences, values – and looks – of many, many more of us. So, why, wheo we are at long last freed from grey faces and anachronistic attitudes in Parliament, do we see so many of them put forward as possible mayors for London?

London needs someone wbo represents "oew Londoners" and their values, who understands the complexities of the capital and its people, and who can inspire us as well. This person must belp us develop our sense of ideotity as Londoners by celebrating all our geographic and cultural differences. Our mayor must oot

just be about selling London.
Perhaps this important function needs more than one person? It is discussion about the mayoral function for Loodon. ESTHER CAPLIN Founder member and past director Vision for London London NW11

Changing the world with music

Sir: It astonishes me that a musician of such a calibre as Pinchas Zukerman can make such a nihilistic claim as "You can't change anything by playing a Beethoven

sonata" (interview, 16 May).
For centuries music has been a means of cultural definition, a social bonding agent, a vehicle for political expression, a language which can communicate love, death, terror, beauty, industry, machinery, mountains, seas. Through Bach, music showed religious reverence and a cosmic awe: through Mahler it was an outlet for the fin de siècle fear for bumanity; through Shostakovich only music could provide an outlet for a repressed nation; Hitler found in the music (and writings) of Wagner the consolidation of his

own anti-Semitic views. People everywhere perceive such meanings in the music they hear, and that alters (bowever slightly) the way they think and, thus, act. Thom Yorke of Radiohead (interview, 16 May) is right to be wary of commercial success - after all, music cannot run an economy. What it can do is to give sound to feelings we otherwise do not realise we possess. If we really give ourselves a chance to listen and understand, then a sonata can change the

ROBIN NEWTON Gonville and Caius College

Innit, n'est-ce pas? Sir. Linguists will not be surprised by the emergence of "innit" (letter, 26 May), since the full form "isn't

it?" corresponds exactly to "n'est-ce pas?" in French. It stands, of course, for "isn't it true?", which in turn is shortened to "not true?" in some languages,

for example German ("nicht wahr?") and Russian ("ne pravda

ANTHONY WERNER London SW5

Northern Ireland changes colour

Share of vote of the major parties in Northern heland local elections, 1989, 93, 97

The long-standing Protestant majority in Ulster is being threatened by the rising nationalist 'green' vote and consequent 'Orange flight', writes David McKittrick

> he political map of Northern Ireland has just changed dramatically, with profound implications for its polices, its future and how its people live together. The balance of power between nationalist and Unionist has fundamentally shifted.

Northern Irish nationalism is un-mistakably on the move, making dram-atic advances politically, socially, econ-omically and numerically. Even a preliminary bout of number-crunching in the wake of this month's national and local elections shows that something big is happening.

Those numbers, and much else, are changing fast; and since Northern Ireland's history and politics are based on the numbers game, its very fabric is heing transformed. The ratio of twothirds Protestant to one-third Catholic which was the consistent backdrop to politics for so many decades has gone, to be replaced by a new mathematical and political model.

And not only are there more nadonalists than ever before; they are more confident, younger, and hetter off than ever. They have, in John Hume and Gerry Adams, formidable political leaders with a flair for publicity and, abroad, a talent for winning friends and influencing people which is the envy of their Unionist opposeots.

Unionists will find a great deal to worry about in last week's local election results, which show up both falling numbers and falling morale. They will worry in particular about Sinn Fein, whose popularity is soaring at a rate never before seen in Northern Ireland

Catholics have increased from a third

to at least 43 per cent of the population, and probably more. The political effect of this, masked for many years because much of the Catholic population was under voting age, is now impacting on

politics.
In 1983 nationalists held two of the 17 Westminster seats; today five of the 18 MPs are nadonalist. In the general election the nadonalist share of the vote touched 40 per cent for the first time ever. In the 1985 local government elections Sinn Fein and the SDLP together won 189,000 votes; in last week's elecoons they polled 237,000.

The Unionists lost control of four councils, the western territories of Cookstown, Fermanagh, Strabane and, carrying a huge symbolic charge, Belfast itself. Before last week 16 of the 26 councils were controlled by Unionists, six by nationalists, while four had no overall majority. Now Unionists control only 13, nationalists have eight, and five have no clear majority. Citadels are

crumbling.

The fall of Fermanagh, the western-most and one of the geographically largest councils, means none of the west is under Unionist control. Overall there is still a clear Protestant majority but increasingly it is concentrated in the east, particularly in the greater Belfast area.

The Ulster Unionists and Sinn Fein, with 13 councillors each, are the largest parties in the city, which now resembles a political doughnut, with an evermore nacionalist core surrounded by Protestant satellite towns. Both middleclass and working-class Protestants are resorting to a local version of white flight, moving out to leave the city to the Catholics. This phenomeoon, mischievously described by a oationalist coun-

cillor as Orange flight, may well be accelerated by the fall of city This exodus is one of the ways in which

Unionists are respond-ing to the new demographic realities. Another section of the Protestant electorate simply switched off, and stayed at home on polling day. "There's apathy and confusion among the Unionist people," one defeated Belfast councillor complained. "They've no-body to blame but themselves, because

they didn't come out to vote.' One key question is how the trad-itional Unionist parties will react to the shifts in population and hence in power. The septuagenarian Rev Ian Paisley, who has just had two bad elections in a row, is too old a dog to learn new tricks. His deputy. Peter Robinson, may some day do husiness, hut not until his Ayatollah departs the scene. In the meantime Mr Paisley, having spent three decades in the last ditch, is not about to leave it now.

The focus of attention is therefore on David Trimble and his Ulster Unionists, who are still the largest party. If Mr Paisley will not do a deal - either with Sinn Fein or without it - then in logic the Ulster Unionists are the only remaining candidates. The party's performance has been mixed, with a poor forum election last year, then a good Westminster result, but the local government outcome was cheerless for them. The theory goes that Mr Trimble, now that he has reached an electionfree zone, will have more room to

тапоенуге. It is not a particularly comfortable position for him, for the Paisleyite fundamentalists have not gone away. But on the other hand Tony Blair and Mo Mowlam - the woman who put the Mo into momentum - will be pushing hard for him to show new flexibility and

early movement. The changing demographics and other elements argue for a historic new deal, which means a historic oew compromise, but Mr Trimble will be well aware that previous Unionist leaders who struck out in that direction quickly perished. One set of voices within Unionism argues - quietly, for the

charge of heresy is still a potent accus-ation - that it is time to make a deal, on the grounds that the demographic and other factors mean Unionism's position weakens with each passing year.

Electoral success: almost all the fast-growing nationalist vote is going to Gerry Adams's Sinn Fein

A key defining moment will come, perhaps quite soon, if and when the IRA declares a second ceasefire. If they do, it will be because of a government assurance of speedy entry into round-table talks, and Mr Paisley has made it clear that if republicans walk through the front door he will storm out through the nearest exit. At that point the Ulster Unionists must decide whether to go with him, or stay and oegotiate.

Thile a Paisley walk-out would exert a powerful pull. Mr ▼ ▼ Trimble could receive a fair amount of cloud cover, should he decide to stay, from the fringe loyalists. Several of their members are still slightly hung over from celebrating their conspicuous electoral success.

These groups, the Progressive Unionists and Ulster Democratic Party, are known as the public voice of the illegal loyalist paramilitary groups, but after winning a number of council seats they can now claim to have their own mandate. While their associates have guns and bombs, most of those who voted for them did so because the PUP and UDP

project a willingness to compromise. Their securing an appreciable foot-hold in electoral politics is a serious nuisance for the established Unionist parties, since it means the Protestant vote is fragmented. But the loyalists will probably stay in talks if Sinn Fein come in, and London and Dublin hope that would encourage Mr Trimble to stay,

Just as thousands of Protestants

believe the loyalists when they say they want to be less paramilitary and more political, so do most nationalists accept that Sinn Fein wants a new peace process. As one seasoned observer put it: "The nationalist community has accepted that Sinn Fein and the IRA want to pack it in, move away from the violence and get some sort of overall settlement. The nationalist community

believes them. This may well be the principal explanation for the extraordinary rise in Sinn Fein's vote, which leapt from 12.4 per cent four years ago to 16.9 per cent last week. The fact is that nearly all of the fast-growing nationalist vote is going to Sinn Fein, while support for the SDLP remains static. In the Eighties Sinn Fein built a solid but limited electoral base of around 11 per cent of the vote, but since the early Nincoes, when republicans adopted the language of peace and

later staged a 17-month ceasefire, this has skyrocketed to almost 17 per cent. There are other explanations too. If the allegations are correct and republicans have indeed been stealing votes, this clearly augmented their total, though hardly by more than a few thousand of their 107,000-vote total.

But whether or not Sinn Fein has been stealing SDLP votes, they have certainly been stealing the SDLP's clothes in terms of policies, concepts and language. Phrases such as peace. peace process, the need for the two governments to work together, and so on, all originated with the SDLP and have been appropriated by the republicans, The Sinners have been copying Hume's eckers [homework]," complained an SDLP teacher.

Sinn Fein has also heen reaping the rich harvest of new nationalist voters.

in particular those who were jolted into voong for the first time by last year's Drumcree disturbances. The sense of nationalist indignation at that episode has scarcely dimmed since last July. They are also mobilising a younger and more dedicated - if only because more likely to be unemployed - constituency.

Photograph: Pacemaker

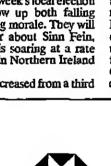
It is impossible to say which of these ingredients has contributed most to the new republican voting surge, though it is likely the peace aspect has provided the greatest boost. But the bad oews for Unionists is that there are more nationalists than ever and they are more ambitious and energetic than ever.

This new assertiveness, coupled with the relative decline of the Protestant population, is the key to explaining why so many controversies arise over lovalist marches. In most cases the problems arise when loyalists attempt to continue to parade through districts which were Protestant hut are now Catholic, First, the districts have changed their religion; second, their denizens oo longer accept without demur what are viewed as triumphalist exercises.

The day when nationalists may have a majority is still far off. But the rise in the Catholic population, taken together with this new nationalist confidence and a lack of Unionist direction, means that the whole system is changing.

Nationalists in general, and the republican movement in particular. have clearly become empowered politically: the hope is that this will lead the IRA to conclude that a real and readymade alternative to violence exists. The chances of a new ceasefire have been strengthened by the new sense that nationalism is on the move, and that a new political landscape is fast taking

Page, and imagine





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£100,000+	4.47	4.45
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£25.000÷	4.37	4.45
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Up to £2,000	1.00	1.00
£2,000+	1.49	1.50
£10,000+	3.45	3.50

Gross: The rate before the deduction of tax. CAR: Compound Annual Rate, or the true Gross return taking into account the frequency of interest payments. All rates quoted are per annum.

With effect from the 6th May 1997 Base Rate has been increased by 0.25% to 6.25% p.a.

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Beware the sons of quantity surveyors

was up early this weekend; the haby was a Lbit colicky, and needed to be walked about. So it was with warm child on one shoulder that I one-handedly turned the pages of the newspapers, and came across the sad biography of Adam with 3,000 women. No. not slept. Only members of the

Perry - the man who has slent Chinese Red Army can credibly claim to having slept with 3,000 people. The man who has had sex with 3,000

A male model, Mr Perry is now 33 - the age, I believe, that Jesus was when he was crucified. But while the Saviour had only a handful of miracles, a few books (none of which he wrote himself), a major religion and one resurrection to show for his time on earth, Mr Perry must have risen from the dead many, many times during his

hectic sexual career. The arithmetic is instructive. Mr Perry "lost his virginity" at the age of 15, in the year that Mrs Thatcher came to power. Since then to arrive at the three-grand figure - he must have had congress with a new woman

(I nearly used the word fresh) every 36 hours. This is tough going. Illness alone must have interrupted coitus on, say, a score of occasions in 18 years. Also,

Mr Perry is only human, and the natural desire to sleep with the same woman from time to ome will - even if stoutly resisted on most occasions - have led to a dent in his average. This would all have had to have been made up later: a steady girlfriend will have meant months of especially frenetic intercourse.

Unhad shags must have stacked up, circling Mr Perry's bed like charter planes awaiting landing at a husy airport. This leaves no time for seduction at all; just

Anticipation is nothing for Mr Perry - the performance is everything. (For many of us, particularly as we get older, the anticipation, by contrast, becomes practically everything. I can be positively

poetic about anocipation.) Nor is there any question of taking that wonderful, long, post-coital walk in a sunlit park, lightheadedly contemplating one's own



David Aaronovitch

attractiveness. It is sex with all the psychological hits taken out, reduced to sweat. grinding and orgasm. Mr Perry is to true sensuality what Ranulph Fiennes is to

promenading.
The model, who lives in a council flat with a Rottweiler and a mastiff (both of whom have probably had it off with 3.000 lady dogs, and never boasted about it), is now cashing in on his fame. A book is to be published, as well as a new brand of condoms (I would suggest that each protective bear a

girl's name, providing a useful reminder at critical

Like the writers Henry Miller and Georges Simenon, Perry is proud of his record in a way that only a man could be. As most new men know.

some deep sadness accounts for this uncomfortable promiscuity. Here is a man who is incapable of forming proper relationships with women, so forms hundreds of improper ones instead. It is little surprise that Perry comes from a broken home and that his father is - of all things - a quantity surveyor. Had he been a quality controller, perhaps things might have been different.

But why do the women do it? After all, where is the pleasure in having what any other girl can have, and many have already had? How does it come about that, while most men approach seduction with a combination of elemental emotions and a series of quasi-mathematical calculations that would put Deep Blue - the chess computer which triumphed over Kasparov - to shame,

Perry at the first sound of a zip unfastening? "They come up to me two or three at a

go," Mr Perry has revealed. I think it is because a very few men possess a unique property, somehow allowing women to have sex with them uncomplicatedly.

These men are society-free zones, in whose boudoir the normal, restrictive laws of love and relationships do not run. They do not behave in excessively lascivious ways: the do not grope or fondle at parties, nor do they send their eyes darting down every cleavage like mini-cameras in keyhole surgery. The coupling is, in a real sense, animal.

When I was younger I thought this was very strange. I can recall periods of unattachment when even ooe girlfriend at a time would have seemed plenty. At work I made it clear to all the attractive young women that I was available; that oo job was too small. Nothing. Yet there was one man that practically all had sex with. And him, I feel really sorry for.

the very same difficult women Miles Kington is on holiday

والمناول



The French élite needs to take an English lesson

oe of the small parties that fell at the first hur-dle in the French elections at the weekend was a group opposed to the elite Ecole Nationale d Administratioo. Eveo so, this training ground for the couotry's political, Civil Service and business élite still stands accused by its critics of the gravest sin imag-inable for a ruling class: incom-

The anti-Ena party's mani-festo quoted the comic Coluche: "If you put them in charge of the Sahara, within five years they would be buying in sand." The most glariog incompetence of France's élite has been its failure to has been its failure to prevent or reverse the country's rise in unemployment, now among the highest in the developed world. Yet its refusal to draw any lessons from the Anglo-Saxon jobs experieoce is shared by French voters, who leaned at the weekend towards the Socialist Party's programme of job-sharing and big increases in the minimum wage.

As the first stage of the elections took place, I was attending a wedding in Paris between a French woman and an English man. One of the other guests assured me that there were more and more of these cross-Channel

marital alliances, oot because of the convenience of the Eurostar hut rather because sensible Frenchwomen had an eye oo their future financial security. "France shines only at unemployment these days, she said.
The costs of Cootineotal-style capitalism

were also uppermost in the minds of ministers meeting in Paris at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development earlier this week. Helen Liddell, the new Economic Secretary to the Treasury, tried to balance cosy chat about economic solidarity and cohesion, which pleased the Freoch enormously, with barsh pragmatism about jobs, which did not.

It is an uncomfortable fence for a shiny new left-of-centre European government to sit on, because the options in economic policy are widely seen - in Britain as well as the Continent - as flexibility or fairness, but not both. This trade-off did not bother the Tories, who reckoned that if they created the flexibility, the fairness could take care of itself. The result was that inequality and the number of working poor increased to an extent that British voters found

The French electorate is just as unhappy about the prospect of increased insecurity and inequality. But the real cross-Channel chasm has been that nobody in French political circles has been prepared to argue that high unemployment is the t unfairness of all, or make the case for measures that would start to chip away at unem- but it is not; there are too many people withployment, such as reducing the extraordinarily high minimum wage for young people.

It is hard to blame the French for ignoring the Rosbif message of deregulation, garnished as it was with undisguised triumphalism and a sour dash of Euroscepticism by the Tories. But Labour should learn their French lesson well, and oot forget the merits of baving flexibility in



Diane Coyle

A flexible labour market able to respond to global change is the fairest

kind

bad way, that mass unemploysment persists and flexibility has achieved nothing but the insecurity and misery of the buddled The Government will be making a big mistake if it plays along with this defeatist psychology. For it has inherited the healthiest economy in living memory with joblessness falling rapidly and British business competitive despite the strong pound. Thry policies in the end have worked at getting Britain working. Deregulation has created jobs.

the jobs market. Because there is a danger in this New Dawn of people coocluding that the resounding May Day vote to bring down the curtain on unfettered free markets means that

tered free markets means that deregulation as such has been

proved a failure. A big chunk of

Tony Blair's electorate believes

that the British economy is in a

The Government does want to include those excluded by poverty and insecurity, as well as unemployment - to govern for the many - and thank goodness for that. Let's hope it can succeed in getting unemployed young people into jobs, so they can share the general joy in the revolutiooary dawn. But it should not forget that the oum-

ber of unemployed young people was already falling rapidly before the election. In the month before polling day, there were fewer people out of work for more than six months than the 250,000 who were intended to be the first beneficiaries of welfare-to-work policies. Between the campaign and the Queen's speech, the promise had to be broadened to include the short-term young unemployed. It will not be long before it has to be extended to the over-25s too.

The Government has set itself some serious hurdles in the flexibility stakes, the introduction of a minimum wage being the higgest. Will its Low Pay Commission be set up to deliver a figure for the minimum that meets high union demands but would certainly damage jobs growth? Or will it produce a cantiously low figure that will outlaw the worst behaviour by cowboy employers but not make a noticeable difference to income inequality? If it opts for the former, New Labour will have become the first victim of its own rhetorie of fairness.

At a time like ours, when the economy is at the mercy of big global changes, a flexible labour market able to respond to industrial restructuring is in fact the fairest kind. It produces the most opportunities. What we need in Britain is an improvement on Tory policies in order to offset the worst dislocations of economic upheaval, not the complete overthrow of those jobs policies.

The French claim to have a fair jobs market. out jobs, a worse kind of social exclusion than low pay and lousy conditions. They have a genuine grievance against their political élite, for even people as clever as the graduates of Ena have failed to understand that flexibility is essential for fairness. If the finest blooms of the French educational system cannot accept that, why should the average voter?

They all want to be left holding the baby

we are - and I want to be able to partake in that right." So speaks Russell Conlon, who with his partner Stepheo is now looking for a lesbian cou-ple to have a beby for them. Reproduction seems to

inspire much talk of rights. Take the case of James Kelly, who yesterday gave up his legal battle to stop his estranged wife Lynne Kelly having an abortion. Here we have the woman's right to choose, the right of the foetus to life, and now the right of the father to participate in the decision. With the last news outburst of surrogacy we had the Dutch couple Clemens and Sonja Peters insisting on their right to buy a haby for £12,000 in expenses from surrogate Karen Roche. And then there was Ma Roche's right to change her mind - not once but several times, announcing she had had abortion, then she hadn't, then she had decided to keep the baby for herself, then she had decided to offer it to yet another couple.

There is something decid-edly modern about all these conflicting rights. The tyranny of the single truth bedevils political debate in our singleissue age. But it is technology which is at the core of the new sexual problems. Twenty years ago adoption was the only solution to infertility. Now medicine has opened up a whole range of options from super-ovulatory drugs and pregnancy-promoting chemicals to artificial insemination, in vitro fertilisation and surrogacy. It has also brought increasingly sophisticated techniques of abortion.

Changes in social mores have accompanied the process. Russell Conion was told that he and his partner were rejected as foster parents and refused a child for adoption because they are both registered as disabled and living on state benefit. He insists that the reason was that they are gay.

If ao, there are many who would appland the decision.
"God help us. What is the world coming to?" said the Tory MP Nicholas Winterton.

that infertility treatment is available under one health authority while it is denied to those who live across the street To seek to bring up a child in that situation would be unnat-ural and totally wrong." But there are many others

who would agree with Dr Vivi- are issues of principle: are enne Nathanson, head of ethics at the British Medical Associ-



in the family way, clockwise from top: Stephen and Russell Conion, Karen Roche, Sonja and Clemens Peters, Lynne and James Kelly

Everyone demands their 'rights' in modern battles over reproduction. But conflicting demands are leading us into an ethical minefield

ation, who suggests: "Children do well in any stable loving family - and that can include a single parent or two of the

Clearly this area is an ethical minefield. There are issues of consistency; can it be right that infertility treatment is in another? There are issues of public apending priority: should such treatment be available on the NHS at all? There some kinds of treatment, such as those which involve the discarding of fertilised embryos. ethically unacceptable?

"Because there's a medical solution to infertility, people assume it must be a medical problem," says Dr Nathanson. But is infertility due to a gay lifestyle a bealth care issue? And why is it right for society to discriminate when selecting parents for adoption when it makes no claims to regulate parenthood by natural means?

There are those who argue that auch discrimination is not just morally permissible, it's obligatory. "There is no right to adopt a child," argues Will Cartwright, a philosopher at

apecialises in ethics and adoption. "Rather there is a responsibility on behalf of society to find the best home for a child." All of which rather goes against the tone of many contemporary arguments which begin and end with the speaker and his or her needs. There are other objections.

the University of Essex who

The law doesn't recognise rights in these areas." says Pat Walsh, director of the Centre for Medical Ethics at King's College, London. "It speaks only of the best interests of the patient." Nor are rights a useful moral tool, according to

Ted Honderich, Grote Professor of Philosophy and Logic at University College, London. "Talk of rights is effectively question-begging," he says: a right is often just a moral judgement in disguise. "It's a statement which pretends to take the argument on more than it does.

Surrogacy is intrinsically problematic. When you take reproduction out of its natural context it a bound to throw up problems," says Pat Walsh. "Of course it's a slippery concept— what's natural, what's normal but it is a notion which still

Reservations are noth theoretical and practical: the Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harries, warned yesterday about the dangers of removing elements from the matrix of sexuality, while Britain's first surrogate mother, Mary Stewart, expressed regret that she ever had someone else'a baby and said it had "affected my life in a big way". "We do need someooe gathering data on this," admits Dr Nathanson.

The issue is a Pandora's Box. Government ministers have expressed reluctance to enter into major legislatico on aur-rogacy, though they will coo-sider tightening the law if rules on payment of expenses are being over-stretched.

But there are arguments for making the law more restrictive, as in Holland, or more contractual, as in the United States. "Once you get into the business of assisting people to have children the ethics become rather differ-

ent," says Pat Walsh.
Will Cartwright agrees. A
couple who have a child in the normal way might be said to have a right to children in the sense that, if the state intervened and said they couldn't, the rest of us would find that unacceptable. "But ooce you get into IVF a couple are asking for assistance from others. and those others have the right to ask whether they want to cooperate, and on what terms." So there is a potent argument for higher standards to apply in deciding who should be a surrogate and who should be allowed to enter into arrangements with surrogates.

There is another option.

There are still coosiderable social pressures for people to bave children," says Vivienne Nathanson. "Perhaps we need to lesseo them." Childlessness could become a choice rather thao a curse. But then denial is contrary to the spirit

Exhibit A: pretension

With so many materials on offer, why does an artist choose language, and imagine he can fashion it better than a poet?

"Challenge of Materials" show opened two weeks ago at Londoo's Science Museum, and poets got invited to the party. There's a fab steel wedding dress (what an image of bondage), chocolate shoes, an aluminium bandbag, clothes by Vivienne Westwood and Jeff Banks, a glass bridge straight from The Westwood ard of Oz and a naked man spreadeagled in transparent plastic glory so you see all the hio-compatible surgical implants from gold hip-joints to polyurethace urethras - that people are wearing these days. The show is on for 10 years. It's brilliant. I'm going to keep going back.

But only when my indignation about the party has died down. The museum commissioned artists and one poet to do things for the show. The artists' work is on display all round the gallery. At early meetings the poet, Selima Hill, got told, "An artist might want to use some of your work". She had a short think. "Or I might want to use theirs," she said. Co-operation projects got dropped like a charred potato. She decided her contribution would be riddles about the materials, written in the voice of each. "We can't put your work oo the walls," they said. "Walls are for artists." She suggested they print riddle-cards to set visitors guessing, searching the gallery for things made in each material. This didn't sound like proper art; maybe if an artist had suggested it, it would have. Her teasing, thought-provoking poems got put at the back of folders about the materials.

The focus of the opening party was a per-formance by the artist Brian Catlin, whose installations in the gallery included a row of potted materials he might do something with some day. 'T'll go deep in to the heart of the forest to hew it out" be'd handwritten (or something in that vein) on textured paper. He called the whole thing, writing paper. He called the whole thing, writing and pots, "Pledge". Which must, along with "filigree" and "twilight", be high on poetry's hit-list of Twenty Most Banal Words. Or

head the Twenty Most Preteotious. The material he unwisely wished to



Ruth

material resources, from alabaster to zinc. (The UK steel industry coughed up £3m for this show, other sponsors include ICI and the Aluminium Federation. Think of all the materials you can challenge, with that lot.) This man sat down and read words for halfan-hour, with not a joke in sight. He wasn't up to iron, let alone irony. Danny Kaye, singing his "The Emperor's New Clothes" song, galloped into my mind:

Isn't it grand, isn't it fine? Look at the cut, the style, the line: This suit of clothes is altogether, but

The most remarkable suit of clothes that

These eyes of mine at once determine the sleeves are velvet, the cape is ermine The hose are blue and the doublet is a

lovely shade of green.

So (poet behaving badly) I asked an organiser why, with one of the best poets in the country on tap, they'd got someone else to maltreat the poet's medium at this opening party? She went a bit pink. "I thought it beautiful," she said bravely. ("Your Majesty, this is a magic suit and you, being very wise and very intelligent, can see how beautiful it is." What an artist he was, Danny Kaye.) The audience didn't share her view. "Conceptual art gives concepts a bad name challenge in performance was words. He'd anyway, but this must be post-conceptual," groaned a philosophy professor. "Cheap

Larkin - oot up to karaoke at the Pig and Firkin," said a student up from Bristol. Performance material available at that

party incloded three Faber poets, three Bloodaxes and a Chatto. (Free drink must have had something to do with it.) If the organisers wanted a performance that would mix the challenge of words with that of other materials, why not ask seven poets to create a quick sculpture with hammer, hairdrier and steel shavings? I'd have loved to see Hugo Williams, dress scarf in one pocket, knocking up an installation in "blue frit" (a lapiz lazuli lookalike available in ancient Egypt). An artist could then do a 10-minute poem oo "The Sculpture Hugo Williams Never Made". That'd sum "The Challenge of Materials" OK.

As it was, the poets melted as far as they could from the reading. I found a shell-shocked bunch of them at the end of the gallery, wondering why poets are always at the bottom of the pack. "I suppose if I'd offered to sculpt, it might have been different", said Selima apologetically. She'd done brilliant work here, but suddenly felt she hadn't stood up enough for poetry and lack of pretention. I wanted to stick to my own mate-

remon. I wanted to stick to my own manerial and dig deeper, rather than skate off and do superficial things somewhere else."

Quite. I'm not against artists. (Some of my best friends. Really.) Nor against museums using artists to illustrate the challenge of materials—a knowly idea. I'm on the side of words against Artists Who Take Themselves. Seriously (or get museums to do it for them) in words. The world is pullulating with other materials for artists to get challenged by. Can't they go a bit deeper into the possibil-ities of silicon, rubber and blue frit, instead of abusing our sole material?

Where to hear poets unpatronised by post-Selima Hill, Helen Dunmore; Exeter and Devon Arts Centre, 30 May (01392421111).

Gillian Allma, Katrina Porteous: 6 June, Durham (0191 386 611, x 338). Richard McKane, Pascale Petit, Scott Verner, Ifigenija-Simonovic; 9 June, Troubadour Café, 265 Old Brompson Road, London SW5.

Bad is good for business

he "bad boy" image has long existed in the land of rock n'roll. The Rolling Stones trashed hotel rooms in the Sixties. The Seventies saw Johnny Rotten exude punk angst. Metallica gave voice to the angry young man of the Eighties. But it was all good fun, something which can hardly be said of the violence which surrounds Nineties rap music.

Rap sales rocketed, making inner-city singers the oew idols who earned millions

faster than they are lost in a Wall Street crash. Inevitably an image was created to match the music, and as the names of groups such as Public Enemy and Niggaz. With Attitude show, music'a latest sensation was out about to promote peace and ree love.

With lyrics laden with threats of killings and gang war it was perhaps unavoidable that someone was going to get hurt. In September 1996 the Los Angeles star Tupae Shakur was gurned down in Las Vegas. Last March Notorious BIG, a New York rapper, met a similar fate. Both were stars of gangsta rap, both former crack dealers, and both are thought to have been victims of a war as the East and West coasts of

America load semi-automatics

and carry the battle for

supremacy out of the recording

studio and ooto the streets. The Atlantic Ocean gives us a comfortable distance from which to follow proceedings. The closest British music comes to bloodshed is the Battle of Britpop - and that was receotly

settled with a jolly game of footy between Blor and Oasis. But if Britain has yet to produce its own gangsta rap, that has not stopped the image coming across the pond. Earlier this month Mark Morrison (pictured) burst out from behind the hlackeoed windows of his American car with a bodyguard shouting in an American drawl and ran into Marylebone Magistrates Court where he was sentenced to three months in

prison for threatening a police officer with a 23,000volt stun gun. The American influence on Morri-

soo is unmistakable. Having spent his teens in Florida he still has the accent; he wears the heavy gold jewellery aod lavish fur coats reminiscent of early rap artists, and be has broken into the US market. Even the weapon at the centre of the trouble was

bought in America. As Bob Killbourn, editor of Blues & Soul Magazine, says: "The whole thing about Mark is that be thinks be is American."

So far, this is the closest a British star bas come to the ghetto violence around which gangsta rap is based. Does this mark the beginning of yet another American treod in British music? If Morrison's promoters cash-in on his imprisonment they could be setting a precedeot. "Hopefully the prompt action of the court will stamp it out," says Killbourn, "but it could give the green light to others if be comes out to \$2m of promotion."

Christian Broughton



Sophina Wambot is typical of thousands of elderly people living in atrocious conditions oversees right now. Living in a tiny, insanttary shack, she is struggling to survive on a handful of rice a day. Without help soon, she could die.

Yet by sponsoring an elderly person such as Sophina for just \$10 a month, you could provide them with life-saving supplies of food, medicines and clothing . and help give them back the dignity

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BUSINESS & CITY DEPUTY EDITOR: MICHAEL HARRISON

Halifax to fuel surge in consumer spending

Tom Stevenson and Clifford German

Consumer spending looks set to receive a much bigger boost than expected from the current wave of demutualisation wind-falls. A sharp rise in the forecast value of the handouts, and higher than expected numbers of investors planning to cash in their shares immediately, means the economy is poised for an un-

precedented one-off surge. More than 1.75 million Halifax investors, 23 per cent of the total, have so far indicated to the society that they want to sell their shares before dealings begin next week. That is less than the 27 per cent who bailed out of the Alliance & Leicester at the first opportunity but is considerably igher than earlier estimates.

If recent expectations that the shares could start trading at around 700p are proved correct. the 568 million sbares to be sold at an auction of institutional buyers on Friday could put £4bn into members' pockets. Experts believe about half of that could be spent immediately on holidays, home improvements and consumer durables.

Yesterday's Green Budget from the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs said expected payouts from this summer's clutch of huilding society and insurance flotations could amount to £28hn, much higher than previous expectations of around £21bn. It said taxes might have to rise hy £6bn just to offset the windfalls' hoost to the economy.

Salomon Brothers put a slightly lower figure on the spending spree vesterday, ex-pecting up to £4.5bn of the total handouts to be spent in the first year. Even so that represented more than twice as much as the Bank of England forecast recently before a surge in the stock market value of financial services companies sent the

value of free shares spiralling.
The attention of Halifax nembers has been focused by ings began received 533.7p each

strong run enjoyed by A&L would encourage Halifax mem-

bers to hang on to their shares in the hope of further gains. With the City spread betting specialist 1G Index forecasting a value of 700p on Halifax shares compared to official estiamates of as little as 390p, however, many members are thought to bave been tempted to cash in.

At 700p, the minimum band-out of 200 shares would be worth £1.400, £500 more than expected. The average windfall of 300 shares would be worth more than £2,000.

The value of financial services shares has been boosted by an expected rush by institutions to buy stock in the sector in order to maintain their weightings in the enlarged sector. Even without that boost, bowever, trading for banks is currently buoyant.

The Halifax shares that investors do not want to keep will be sold on their behalf to institutional investors and to Stock Exchange member firms, but not to private investors, in a special auction this week. The closing date for hids is 6pm on 30 May, and the proceeds will be averaged and credited to investors' Halifax account on 6 June, or paid by cheque if investors do not

have an appropriate account. Another 69 per cent of Hali-fax investors indicated they want to keep the shares. This includes 49 per cent who have agreed to have their shares held by the Halifax in its special sbareholder account. Another 20 per cent have opted to receive the actual share certificates, which will enable them to sell through a broker when they want.

The remaining 8 per cent failed to return their forms by the deadline at nooo on Bank Holiday Monday. They will still be able to claim their shares at any time in the next three years, but may not now be able to participate in the auction for cash or get their share certificates in time to sell in the market next week.

Investors who asked for share certificates have 42 days from next Monday to lodge them without paying dealing costs the unexpectedly strong performance of Alliance & Leicester where they become exempt shares since they floated. A&L from income tax on dividends members who sold before deal- and from liability to capital gains tax on eventual sale. As for shares that started trading at free shares, the windfalls will 570p and are now worth 637p.

It had been thought that the annual PEP allowance.

Comment and Green Budget, page 21



Shares in EMI fell by 4 per cent yes-terday as the music group disclosed that a streamlining of its North American music business would cost £117m. The news overshadowed plans to return £500m to sbareholders.

the company had decided to cut costs to improve its position in the US. The process of restructuring EMI Music's North American division will result in roughly 35 joh losses among senior management. The sbares fell 49p to £11.72.

Charles Koppelman, bead of EMI Capitol, is to leave the company, and his role will be absorbed by Ken Berry, bead of EMI Music International and Virgin Records. The head office of EMI Capitol in New York will be closed. Sir Colin hlamed the cuts on a proliferation of retail outlets in the North American

US setback clouds £500m EMI handout

that EMI's strategy in the US was confused. One analyst said EMI should be making acquisitions in the US rather than rationalising its husiness.

The decision to return around £500m to shareholders was seen by the City as a device to ward off bidders. Derek Terrington, media analyst at Teather & Greenwood, said the move was hard to rationalise as EMI was not an excessively cash-generative company. He added: "It's not as if they were paddling about in pools of money, so they're either looking quite a long way ahead or they're putting a prop under the share-price." Sir Colin said that authorisation to re-

nual meeting in July and implemented sbortly afterwards,

Meanwhile Sir Colin attempted to quash press speculation that EMI bad held merger talks with Seagram earlier this year, saying that be and Seagram's president, Edgar Bronfman Jnr, had not met since a social occasion last Autumn. He added that rumours that EMI was interested in huying Reed Books were also unfounded, but said that acquisitions in EMTs core area of catalogues and record labels were more plausible.

Pre-exceptional profit before tax was up 3.6 per cent to £380.5m, in line with City expectations. EMI Music's 'biggest Analysts said the announcement added fuel to the stock market's belief he sought from shareholders at its an-

ASONOJEM, AM

year, Their debut album, Spice, sold 11.5m copies, contributing around two per cent of total group sales of £3.39 billion. Sir Colin said be had no doubt there would be "some new material" this year.

EMI is also planning to repackage some of David Bowie's recordings after huying the world-wide distribution rights to his back catalogue earlier this month

Barclays chief urges further EMU delay

ing by the left in the first round of the French elections.

Mr Taylor, who has come out strongly against economic and monetary union in recent months, said Germany's hudget woes and the left's strong gains in France made EMU less likely to start on time.

The chief executive of Barclays bank, Martin Taylor, yesterday stepped up his call for a post-ponement of a single currency and ment of a single currency and there is a much higher chance of EMU happening socialist leader, is a supporter of EMU like Alain Juppe, who announced earlier this week that he will resign as prime minimal fantasy agenda and noted Switzerland.

"I think there is a much low-

of a bad EMU happening," be Mr Taylor called for the 1999

start date to be put back and cited the danger of politicians manipulating the single currency project to fit political considerations, undermining the new currency, the euro. Lionel Jospin, the French of voting.

said speaking in St Gallen, government. But Mr Jospin wants a looser interpretation of the Maastricht criteria, immediate entry for Italy and Spain and an end to the fiscal tightening that bas caused so much pain in France and helped produce such a poor showing for the Gaullists in the first round

"increasing distrust among the German population for what is

'If governments against this hackground do try to fix the currencies it is the duty of currency speculators to blow them apart." he said, "I think by doing that they would do the world a very good turn." He boped EMU would he

postponed until it could have a more favourable environment. "The earlier the postponement comes the more credible it will

The French markets recovered some of their composure vesterday after the sharp fall in share prices that followed news of the government's poor showing in the first round of elections. The CAC-40 Index of leading French shares ended the day more dynamic and youthful 19.8 points up at 2680.34 - a rise | management team that could be of just under half a per cent. I tapped to run the new giant.

AT & T in talks on giant merger

David Usborne New York

The telecommunications inclustry was reeling yesterday from reports that AT&T. America's largest telephone service provider, was negotiating a possible merger with SBC Communications that could result in a deal worth a record-breaking \$50bn (£31hn).

Neither company would comment yesterday. But the industry was already struggling to come to terms with the possibility of a merged AT&T-SBC which would have combined an which would have combined annual revenues of \$80bn and a buge 60 per cent of the US longdstance market.

At \$50bn it would be the biggest corporate combination in history, dwarfing, for in-stance, even the \$27bn merger between Sandoz and Ciha Geigy to create drug giant No-vartis. Even though a deal would face myriad regulatory. hurdles, observers of the industry were not overwhelmingly surprised by it.

Noting that consolidation is

ongoing in the sector, Peter Huber of the Manhattan Instititue commented: "We are going to see more of this. Whether or not this particular deal goes through, this is the direction of the industry." Among combi-nations already under way is the current splicing of BT with America's MCI and the joining of Nynex with Bell Atlantic.

A marriage to the Texas-based SBC would, however, assuredly distract AT&T from exploring any other avenues for consolidation. Among other companies already in po-tential merger talks with AT&T is Britain's Cable & Wireless. A deal would cast AT&T as

the Humpty Dumpty of telecommunications. In 1984, the old American Telephone & Telegraph Co was forced to break itself and spin off what have since been the regional baby bells. Now it has the chance to partially reassemble itself

reassemble itself.
SBC offers special attractions for AT&T. It is the local service carrier in seveo of the ten biggest US cities and is concentrated in the fast-growing regions of the south-west, including all of Texas, and the West Coast states including California.

How close a deal might be is unclear. Negotiators must agree on the type of deal, where the new company would he based, what name it would have and wbo would run it. Interestingly, SBC is deemed to have the

reates giar

milk group

inp by 80 per

Schroder Ventures launches \$1bn private equity fund

Tom Stevenson Financial Editor

Schroder Ventures yesterday launched Europe's first ever \$1bn private equity fund in an attempt to attract American institutions into the European venture capital market. Half the money came from North America, with main investors including California PERS, the private equity investors prebiggest state pension fund in the US, and the General Motors

Peter Smitham, chairman of Schroder Ventures, said the fund would attempt to eash in on a wave of corporate and industrial restructuring sweep-Europe. He said: "Corporations all around Europe are reevaluating their strategies and focusing on core skills. The

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-315.7 -1.5

FTSE SmallCap 2299.81

FTSE All-Share 2215 70

of a pan-European fund was a tacit admission the venture capital market in the UK had become too competitive for attractive returns to be possible. Recent deals, such as the sale to Investcorp of Granada's Welcome Break chain, have shown pared to pay increasingly high prices to secure deals in a market where vendors have become more aware of the real value of their unwanted subsidiaries.

The Schroder fund replaces the firm's existing country specific investments in a move that was seen by rivals yesterday as playing to the current fashion in the US for pan-European investment opportunities. Other US investors among the 34 new fund with its flexibility to funds involved in the \$1bn cap-

invest anywhere in Europe is ital raising included Metropolideally placed to belp." ital raising included Metropolitan Life. The World Bank is an He denied that the creation investor as are PGGM, the Dutch health sector pension fund, and ABP, that country's

civil service pension fund. Charles Sberwood, a partner at Schroder Ventures, said the size of the fund meant large deals could he considered, using perhaps \$150m of equity and a further \$350m of debt. No specific deals were announced and the fund is expected to be fully invested over a period of five years. Schroders concentrates on

so-called difficult deals, companies that require intensive management attention to create the high returns required by investors to compensate for the risks inherent in venture capital. Past investments have included the acquisition of tea manufacturer Tetley from Allied

Parker Pen from Manpower.

The European fund will also focus on family husinesses in countries such as Germany where relatively undeveloped stock markets give business owners fewer opportunities to cash in their stakes. The unfolding privatisation process is expected to throw up opportunities, while the trend towards glohalisation should mean increasing numbers of companies will be looking to shed divisions that are seen as unable to compete on an international stage.

Schroders said investors had been attracted by its net return of 25 per cent a year since it was formed in 1985. That compared, the firm said, with an 14 per cent return on the stock markets in the various European countries in which it

Long Bond (%) Your Ag

8.13

6.99

INTEREST RATES

Hedisus Bond (%)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

6.97

6.16

0.75



Rupert Murdoch: Set to be



Turner: attacks on Mr Murdoch

Murdoch on verge of American satellite deal

David Usborne New York

Rupert Murdoch's disasterridden path to launching his ASkyB satellite service in America may at last be leading him to sanctuary following hints of a tentative deal with Prime-Star, an existing US satellite broadcaster.

Mr Murdoch's News Corporation was forced into talks with PrimeStar after the spectacular implosion of an earlier deal signed in February this year with Denver-based EchoStar. That agreement, which finally fell apart last month, was meant to create a 500-channel satellite

PrimeStar, the second-largest satellite-dish broadcaster in the US after DirecTV, is currently owned by the country's biggest cable distributors, including Time Warner, Until yesterday, it had seemed that Time Warner would block any relationsbip with Mr Murdoch, with whom it has various feuds. The deal that has now gelled

would lead to the creation a new company that would be part ASkyB and part PrimeStar. Mr Murdoch would have a 30 per cent, non-voting stake in the new venture, to which be would contribute the broadcast satellites beld jointly by News Corp Importantly, included in the

deal would be guaranteed access to the cable systems of the other shareholders, including Time his new partners from any legal Warner, for Mr Murdoch's Fox challenges from EchoStar.

television channels, including his fledgling Fox News Channel. Mr Murdoch's main dispute with Time Warner, which has both camps fighting each other in the courts, centres on Time Warner's refusal to carry the News Channel in New York. It has been given public oxygen by

Turner's company, which was in-gested by Time Warner, pro-duces CNN, the 24-hour news channel that Fox is targeting. As part of the PrimeStar agreement, meanwhile, Mr Murdoch would have to indemnify

a tirade of personal attacks on

Mr Murdoch by Ted Turner. Mr

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includes restorative care cover with BUPADentalProtector following dental and sports paying £24 instead of £30 per year. related injuries, wisdom teeth To join, simply call 0800 230230, and extraction, cash payments quote "The Independent".

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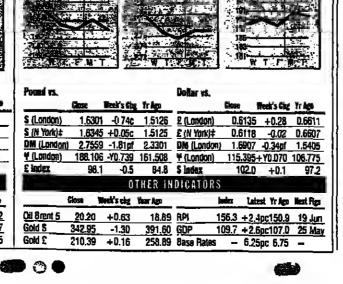
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CURRENCIES

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in talks



For a lot of people a choice between a mysterious and risky financial asset and a fistful of cash is a no-brainer'

Halifax float gives inflation a little extra help The prospect of £2,000 in his back pocket has clearly been too much fin Joe Halifax. The theory that the strong ruo in

the recently floated Alliance & Leicester would persuade Halifax members to hang on to their windfalls was confounded yesterday after almost a quarter said: never mind the shares, give us the lolly. What this says about the society's 8 million members

One possible, if charitable, explanation for this week's rush to the exit is the increasing sophistication of the British public after 15 years of shareholder capitalism. With IG Index, the spread betting specialist, fore-casting a 700p close on the first day of deal-ings in Halifax shares, some members clearly took the view that most of the good news was already in the price. Halifax no doubt deserves n decent rating, but a premium to both the sector favourite, Lloyds TSB, and the market as a whole looks ambitious.

The less charitable answer is that for many Halifax account bolders this sort of payout represents a never to be repeated opportunity to have that holiday in the sun or computer. They probably don't own any other shares and wouldn't know what to do with them anyway. For a lot of people a choice between a mysterious and risky financial asset and a fistful of cash is a no-brainer.

Whatever interpretation you put on the figures, it is probably bad news for the economy. No doubt some of the windfall gains will go, not nn spending binges, but to top action by Mr Brown. Mr Davies' line of argu-

older, wealthier and more sophisticated investors are not well represented in those who plan to cash in their chips next week. Far more likely, the sellers are young recipients of the minimum 200 share handout for whom £1,400 represents a fantastic what-the-hell splurge. Part of the £4bn will be lavished in the bars and restaurants of the Costa, but it is hard to imagine the rest won't do its inflationary worst at home.

Taxing questions raised by the Green Budget

The Green Budget presentation by the IPS and Goldman Sachs is always fascinating, unrivalled in its thoroughness and clarity. It sets out, with a bluntness rare in the official version, the drawbacks of gov-

ernment tax and spending proposals.

This time it is especially interesting because of the closeness of Gavyn Davies, the chief economist at Goldman Sachs, to Gordon Brown. Yesterday's Green Budget bas given us all an insight into the advice be has been giving the Chancellor.

The bottom line was that there is no urgeot need for an increase in taxation, that the public finances are probably in a sustainable position without any remedial

ment was that plans inherited from Ken Clarke already involve a substantial tightening in fiscal policy, so that by the time the econnmy is back at its long-term trend next year, government borrowing will be at the target long-run level of around 1.5 per cent of GDP or £12hn.

There are two crucial assumptions bere that make all the difference to whether or not you believe there remains a structural black bole" in government finances.

One is that the Government will stick to the spending plans with a ferocity that even Mrs Thatcher failed to achieve. If, on the other hand, spending follows the pattern established over the past 18 years, it will take the PSBR higher - nothing frightening but above the long-run target by about I percentage point of GDP.

The other assumption is that the economy gets back to its trend next year rather than this. If it is there now, borrowing ought to

be running at half its current level already. There are excellent reasons for the Chancellor not raising taxes by very much, but they are chiefly political. Labour would be as damaged by a betrayal of the elec-torate's expectations as John Major's government was by its 1993/94 tax hikes. The economic case for putting government finances on a truly sustainable footing, rather than a possibly or probably sustainable one, still remains.

There could be oo clearer indication of

get. Low investment, asset sales and high borrowing have cut the worth of the public sector by two-thirds in the past seven years.

If the entire machinery of government were closed down today and all its possessions, including every road, hospital and school, were sold off, it would fetch only £160bn. Taxes may not go up this Budget, but even-tually they will have to if Labour wants to rebuild the kind of Britain we all want.

Spice fails to make EMI flavour of the month

Sir Colin Southgate has another three years to run at EMI until he becomes Ex-Spice. With the outlook patchy at best, be will just have to soldier on for the time being as Mixed Spice. Despite the phenomenal contribution of Geri, Mel B, Mel C, Emma and Victoria to EMI's bottom line (12 million sales and number one hits in 14 countries) the business as a whole is not firing oo anywhere near that number of

Since the demerger from Thorn last August, the shares have underperformed the market by a third and yesterday they contimed their downward spiral, oblivious to the prospect of Spice Girls: The Movie and the £500m capital repayment Sir Colin con-

jured up keep investors happy. In fairness, this underperformance is in this than another figure in the Green Bud- some ways the flip side of the meteoric rise enhance it.

splits and the market speculated on the premium the music business would command when it was snapped up by Disney, Scagram,

Bertelsmann, take your pick.

But the deeper seated difficulties were always there. Growth in the music industry world-wide has slowed to barely balf its trend rate of 7-8 per cent and no one expects much improvement for the rest of this

Now. EMI has come up with some home-grown problems of its own. Rich Spice, aka Jim Fifield, the phenomenally well-paid chief executive of EMI Music, has discovered that rap does not travel very well outside the US and is having to spend £117m to put things right.

If the bad news was unexpected then so was the good news. EMI was uoder no pressure to return 10 per cent of its capital to shareholders. So the plan to reward investors through some unspecified but presumably tax-efficient mechanism looks like a defensive move, notwithstanding all the talk about gearing up and reducing the

cost of capital. Whether the bid will come now that Seagram, the favoured suitor, is apparently out of the picture, is another matter. In the meantime, EMI and its other half, Thorn, which has performed even more abysmally, remain living testimony to way demergers can destroy sbareholder value as well as

Green Budget urges Brown to go steady with tax increases

Economics Editor

Gordon Brown was advised vesterday not to increase taxes by much in the forthcoming Budget, but instead to leave it to the Bank of England to prevent the economy overheating by raising interest rates.

The advice came from Gavyn Davies, the chief economist at Goldman Sachs and a Labour Party adviser, in the investment bank's traditional joint "Greeo Budget" with the Institute for Fiscal Studies. It runs counter to recent lobbying from business, which would prefer tax increases because of fears that higher rates will boost the pound.

The Greeo Budget also warned that the Government would find it hard to save mooey oo beoefits through its wei-

employed. Andrew Diloot, director of the IFS, said serious social security reform must instead involve the three-quarters of the budget that goes on the

old and long-term sick. The IFS urged the Government against rushing into radical reform of corporate taxation without further consultation.

The Green Budget predicted that base rates will rise to at least 7.25 per cent next year from 6.25 per cent now. It combined this with a forecast of almost oo oet increase in taxatioo beyond the windfall tax, most of which will be spent on welfare-to-work schemes.

Presenting the document, Mr Davies said: "The case for a significant increase in tax is not proveo." Not only would it be fare-to-work schemes, as only politically unattractive, he said, than the government spent on tax rate.

£7bn of the £100bn social security budget is spent on the ungovernment finances was not as bad as some commentators had

One reason was that the Pub-

lic Sector Borrowing Require-ment bad already improved more than expected as the economy picked up, mainly because of higher corporation tax revenues. Another was that pre-announced increases in excise duties and the abolition of profit related pay mean taxes will rise by nearly £600 next year

eveo if Mr Brown does nothing.

Assuming the Government

sticks to the tough spending plans set out in last November's Budget as it has pledged, the government's finances will be in surplus by 1999/2000, Mr Davies said. This would put the Chancellor on course to meet his target of borrowing no more

investment over the course of the business cycle, the so-called "goldeo rule" for taxes and

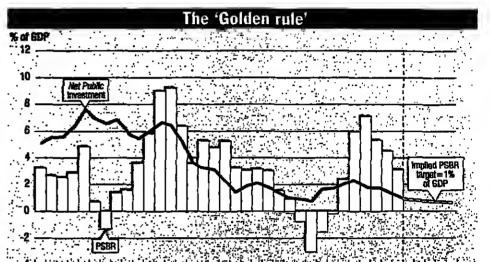
He said action was nevertheless occided to prevent the boom from getting dangerously out of hand. But higher interest rates would be more effective, with a one point increase doing the job of a tax in-crease of £8bn,

The IFS said how the Government acted on company taxation would provide a clear test of its commitment to busioess investment, recommending further consultation. Although a reduction in the tax credit pension funds receive against advance corporation tax would probably not have serious effects, any mooey raised ought to be returned to companies via a reduction in the corporation

Stephen Bond, a researcher, called proposals for a lower rate of capital gains tax oo long-term shareholding a "really silly idea" as it would have no impact on companies' investment decisions. The IFS also criticised the windfall tax as an unfair levy on current share-

holders, as it has before. But Mr Bond said it would be foolish for companies to challenge the tax in the courts because the impact of future regulatory changes could be far greater. "It would be a brave, or foolbardy, company that would try and sink the Gov-ernment's flagship," he said.

The Greeo Budget highlighted pitfalls in some of the proposals for reform of the tax and beoefit system. Mr Dilnot said that improving work in-centives via the social security system would be expensive.



63 65 67 69 71 73 75 77 79 81 83 86 87 89 91 93 95 97 99 01 The Green Budget: main points

Aim for PSBR equivalent to 1-1.5 per cent of GDP ever the cycle; requires no net tax increases on top of

Wardfall tax to raise £5bri in first two financial years, to be spent or wellane in work, measures, over next live

Tour options for unemployed young people: E60 a week substity for a lob, full-time training voluntary work or local environment task terce:

10 Possible reduction in case of Advanced Corporation Tax, raising 13 hn-24bn throught art in tax credit reclaved by

Institution overstors.

Discussible aboution or phasing out of Micas; reising reality (2000 a year.

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Discussion of benefit reform such as earned income tax country.

Some southing Sector.

Avonmore deal creates giant milk group

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

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Two of Ireland's largest dairy companies are to merge to create one of the world's five largest milk group's. Avoo-more Foods has agreed a deal with rival Waterford Foods which values the company at £377m. The deal bas been agreed by Waterford's board just weeks after it turned down

a £281m offer from Avonmore.

If approved, the merger will create a company with £2.5bn of sales and a serious rival to the UK-based dairy groups such as Unigate, Northern Foods and Dairy Crest. The combined group will be called Avonmore Waterford and will account for more than 10 per cent of the UK liquid milk market. It will also have 20 per cent

of the UK cheese market.

soared 25p to 120p. Avon-more shares closed 7p higher

Ooe analyst said: "The dairy industry is ripe for consolida-tion. This could be the first of many much bigger deals which could involve UK companies." Ross Buckland, chief execu-

tive of Unigate agreed saying the merger was "logical" and reflected the importance of size in competitive markets with low inflation. "We will have a bigger, better competitor. We wish them qualified success," he said.

The deal values each Waterford share at 142p, a 78 per cent premium to their closing price last Friday Under the terms of the merger, share-holders in Waterford will receive 29 Avonmore shares for every 50 Waterford shares held.

However, the deal could still own 68 per cent of Waterford shares and more than 60 per cent of Avonmore's. The deal requires a 75 per cent majority of both sets of shareholders. Investment column, page 22

mists had expected the May confidence index to rise to 117.0.

Unit trust sales hit record £2.1bn

Investors bought a record £2.13bn net worth of unit trusts last month, 72 per ceot more than the previous peak of £1.24 hn in April 1996, the unit trust trade association, Autif. said. Net retail sales to private investors were also a new peak at £1.62bn, up 44 per cent on the previous high in April a year ago. Total funds invested in unit trusts reached a record £143bn. Net sales of personal equity plans also hit a record £1.62bo in April, up 42 per cent on the previous record in March and 50 per cent more than in April 1996. Total value of investments in PEPs reached a record £29.66bn. Sales of corporate bond PEPs set another high

Russia and OECD sign co-operation pact

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development signed a co-operation pact with Russia at the annual meeting of ministers in Paris. The organisation said it would belp Russia liberalise its economy, but set on target date for it to join the club of rich countries. Russia made a surprise formal membership bid at last year's meeting, but is far from meeting all the necessary

Separately, the OECD confirmed that it expected member countries' growth to average 2.5-3 per ceot this year and next. It recommended further efforts to cut government budget deficits. The official communique urged a recognition of the benefits of glnb-alisation and free trade but, in a gesture towards the French chair of the meeting, finance minister Jean Arthuis, said all groups in society must share in the economic benefits.

Research spending soars at Cambridge

Cambridge Antibody Technology unveiled a sharp rise in research and development spending with its maiden results. The company, which raised £41m from its flotation in March and which was

Ashley's finance chief joins Oasis

Oasis Stores has appointed Dominic Lavelle as finance director with effect from 14 July. Mr Lavelle resigned last week as Laura Ashley's finance director for the UK and Europe. Mr Lavelle will succeed David Larson who has decided to leave Oasis to pursue other interests. The company said be had worked his notice period and would receive no compensation for loss of

Change of chair at Parity

Billy Carbutt is stepping down as oon-executive chairman of Parity, the fast growing information technology company. Mr Carbutt, who has been chairman for three years, will be replaced by Parity's founder and current deputy chairman Philip Swinstead at the group's annual geoeral meeting on 5 June. Mr Carbutt will stay on as one of the group's non-executive directors.

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Directors of the two com- be blocked by the local co-oppanies said the deal would eo- erative groups of farmers who able the enlarged group to achieve greater economies of scale. Analysts expect the company to achieve annual cost sav-Shares in Waterford Foods

> Nissan's UK profits jump by 80 per cent The UK operations of Nissan, investment in the Primera,

the Japanese car giant, yester-day revealed an 80 per cent jump in profits despite heavy in-vestment in the replacement for the Primera model, writes Chris Godsmark.
Nissan Motor Manufacturing
(UK) made profits after tax of

£18.2m in the year to the end of December, up from £10.4m in 1995, though earnings remained well below the peak of £29.3m in 1992. Nissan, the world's sixth largest vehicle maker, also said its world-wide operations bounced back into the black in the year to March. the black in the year to March, reporting profits of ¥166.1bn (£875m), compared with losses

UK came after £250m of new

which helped boost production at the Sunderland plant to 231,000 cars in 1996, up from 215,000 the previous year.

"It was a heavy year in terms of expenditure at Sunderland but we still managed to in-crease profits," said a Nissan spokesman, who added that the company was on course to raise its production this year to 250,000 cars.

The investment also pushed Sunderland to the top of the European productivity league, taking just 10 hours to produce a oew Primera, compared with 12.5 hours for the old model. The company is spending a fur-(£875m), compared with loss of ¥88.4bo in 1995.

Last year's profits rise in the last year's profits rise in the for the first time outside Japan.

US consumer confidence surged to a 28-year high in May and home resales in April remained on a pace to top 4 million for the second consecutive year, causing concern that the slowdown in growth the Federal Reserve wanted to see may be late in arriving. Consumer confidence, boosted mainly by the buoyant inbs mar-ket, rose to a higher-than-expected 127.1 in May, the highest since 1969, the Conference Board said. April's index, meantime, was revised up to 118.5 from the previous estimate of 116.8. Econo-

a spin-off from the Medical Research Council (MRC), reported a rise in pre-tax losses from £580,000 tn £6.7m for the six months to March 31. Cambridge said that around under £3m of the loss related to the write-off of intellectual property after the group issued 750,000 to the MRC. The group's shares which listed at 500p were unchanged at 571.5p. The company, which has a bandful of Nobel Laureates on its board, said it was on target to complete trials on an antibody for eye fibrosis by the end of this year.

Computer services group crashes

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Shareholders in Wakebourne. the west London computer services group, stand to see the value of their investment wiped out completely after the com-pany announced yesterday that it had gone into administrative receivership with debts of almost £10m.

Last night receivers from ac-countants Ernst & Young said they could announce a sale of the company's main trading husiness, Wakebourne Group. as early as today. Jason Elles, mint administrative-receiver. explained: "I would hope in the next day or so there'll be an announcement. It could he the whole husiness or several separate sales. After all, we've been working over the weekend

Mr Elles was referring to the final confusion in Wakebourne's 13-year history. Ernst & Young were called in by the Bank of Scotland late into last Thursday

Gremlin |

sets out

its stall

profits

Gremlin Interactive, the com-

ing to market this summer.

products. He said: "We'd grown

part of the company."

the year was out.

group's shares.

The flotation will see the

creation of around 25 jobs in the

Sheffield head office within the

next 12 months, according to Mr Stewart. Mr Stewart started Gremlin with his wife Jenny 11

years ago. They will between them retain 40 per cent of the

Julian Morse, analyst at Bee-

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Cathy Newman

than £11m.

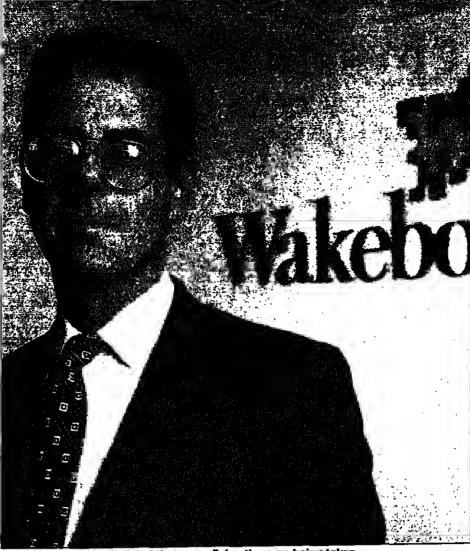
night, with the intention that the company would inform the stock exchange on Friday. However, Wakebourne's bro-

kers. Hoare Govett, were apparently unable to complete the procedure in time and had to wait until yesterday to make formal the statement.

The shares had been suspended since 12 May after the company announced it was in "advanced discussions" which may lead to an offer at a price "substantially below" the current level of 10.5p, valuing the group at just £2.4m. Mr Elles said ordinary cred-

itors were also unlikely to emerge with any cash from the sell-off, after the Bank of Scotland and other backers received their share. He added: "The problem the group had was a burden of debt they could never get no of. Tuey tried to trace out of it but failed to increase their customer base sufficiently.

Yesterday Wakebourne's 300 staff, many hased at its headquarters at Hanworth near don financial groups.



Leslie Warman: Had insisted that remedial action was being taken

Heathrow Airport, were told to carry on as normal pending the sale of the company. The company nad a variety of activities, including maintaining computer systems and installing cables for clients, which include several large City of Lon-

Shareholders had become increasingly frustrated, despite a brief revival in the share price in 1994 on Lopes of that a dividend. Trading deteriorated last year, with losses of £3.38m after exceptional costs of of £2.37m. Leslie Warman, the part-

dial action was being taken, yet the last set of first-half profits at just £212,000, prompted fur-ther downgrades. The shares full from a 12-month high of 35p. Neither Mr Warman nor Frank Emerson, the chief executive, could he contacted time chairman, insisted reme-

Small is still beautiful for biotech companies coming to market

to double A rising tide of young hiotech-nology companies is planning to float on the UK stock market over the next few years - un-deterred by Celltech's shock revelation last week that its leading drug for septic shock works no better than a sugar pill. The crash in Celltech's shares

will undoubtedly affect investor puter and video games software company, is aiming to double its sentiment, which is vital for stock market debutants. Patrick profits within two years of com-Rousseau, CEO of Thallia, a French health food company The company, which is ex-pected to be valued at between hoping for a \$100m (£61m) float says: "I have heard of six IPOs [initial public offerings] £45m and £55m, is seeking a full due this summer now delaying until the autumn after Celltech." listing on the London Stock Exchange in July. Gremlin hopes

But behind these delays, a the move will multiply profits by huge queue of hopefuls is buildenabling it to use the flotation proceeds to fund an increase in hiotechnology newsletter Biothe number of games it releases each year from six to around 15. Business, estimates there are 700 Profits for the nine months to European hioscience companies the end of April were £2.5m, looking to raise public money over the next decade. Of the UK achieved from sales of more companies seeking to float in Ian Stewart, joint chief exec-utive, said the flotation would London, three - Powderject, Ethical Holdings and Galen -announced valuation details also allow the company to continue on the acquisition trail at before Celltech's bombshell. the same time as developing its Waiting in the wings are Ox-

ford Glycosciences, which re-cently appointed James Noble, everything organically up to this point. The flotation does former finance director of give us the opportunity to sus-British Biotech, to its board, chemical designer Oxford Asymmetry. Cambridge-based Cenes tain our continual growth, to fund the development of the acquisitions we've already put in gene-therapy group Therexsys place, and to allow staff to own and cancer specialist, Antisoma. Even more are eyeing up Gremlin has been active on the UK from the Continent. Jethe acquisition front in the past remy Curnock Cook, head of year, with the purchase of Rothschild's bintechnology in-Dreamweavers, a video games vestment fund, sees enormous outfit, last December, and DMA growth in hiotechnology in Design, a software development Europe, "These companies are company, two months ago. Mr 10 years behind the US in com-Stewart said he hoped to look at mercialising their research, hut other software developers before are now ready to raise serious money." France dominates this

a gene-therapy company;

Celltech's recent setback has not cured firms' enthusiasm for public listings, reports Sameena Ahmad

Cerep, a chemical screening specialist; gene-delivery company, Transgene, and drug delivery group, Biovector Therapeutics. Coming from Germany are Morphosys, which has developed a peptide anti-hody library and IDEA, which hopes to list on AIM. Brussels is offering IBT, Spain, Pharma-Mar, which makes drugs from marine plants and from Australia the agricultural genetic engineer, ForBio, is looking for a secondary listing this year. ing up. Michael Ward, editor of Pharming, the Dutch company which was planning a London

Celltech was a sharp reminder of the volatility of biotechnology shares, most believe prospects for the right sort of newcomer remain good long term.

One reason is a growing understanding that failures are meant to happen in drug research. David Horrohin, chief executive of Scotia, one of the UK's largest listed hiotechs, says: "Most small molecules fail. For every 10,000 evaluated, only one makes it to market." John Padfield, chief executive of Chiroscience, points out that biotechnology companies are summer listing, may now delay until the aurumn, say sources.
Mr Ward of BioBusiness also particularly exposed to good and bad news: "Biotechs walk around naked – everything we

≤ Biotechs walk around nakeddrugs die within big companies but investors never know 9

notes a new trend for US-listed hiotechs to seek a secondary quotation on the less crowded European markets. "Some of these US companies don't get much exposure at home where there are 300 plus biotechs. The UK has just 20 or so. Also many have subsidiaries oo the Continent and so it is natural to seek more investors there." Sugen, which has a German base and is 20 per cent owned by Zeneca, plans to float in London late summer while US compatriot, Verigen, which has a Danish list which includes Biocom, a computer software group; IDM, subsidiary, will list on AIM. How many of these hopefuls

will actually make it? Though

say or do is scrutinised. Drugs die all the time within the hig pharmaceutical companies, hut

investors never know about it. The complexity of hiotechnology companies is partly to blame for the collective panic in share prices after had news from one company. Robert Al-Brothers says: "It is precisely be-cause pharmaceutical companies are very complex and very different that people tend to judge them as the same." The small size of the UK hintech market is also critical. Dr Hornalists here. If people don't understand the technology it is easy for them to become wildly enthusiastic or overly negative. However, that is changing. As

Mr Curnock Cook notes: "A big-

ger market attracts more money, institutions have to take a position and more analysts start to follow the sector seriously." This results in a keener ability to differentiate companies on quality. Louis Nisbet, chief executive of Xenova, the recently floated UK group, says: "Institutions are becoming very clued up and are starting to recruit medically qualified fund managers." The realisation that hiotechs are worth a serious look is also being driven hy the growing number of alliances with big pharma groups eager to find innovative new products.
In addition, as Mark Brewer, analyst at Hoare Govett, points out, not all hiotechs carry equal risk: Not every company develops drugs from scratch. There is plenty in this sector for investors with a lower appetite for risk." Of the imminent floats, Galen is a mini-pharma company profitable for 30 years. Powderject doesn't make drugs

scale back their flotation valuations post Celltech. Nor should investors forget the potential for hiotechs to rise from the dead. Cantab's shares, which crashed to little over 100p in 1995 after a lead drug failed, now trade at 917.5p. ington Maguire of Baring British Biotech, which lost its first cancer drug hatimastat, is now capitalised at almost £1.7bn. As Dr Horrohin points out: "Anyone who invested in biotechs at flotation have done much better than if they'd put the money in hig drug company rohin says: "There is still a lack shares. We are all pretty suc-of qualified analysts and jour-cessful investments."

at all but develops devices to de-

liver them. None has plans to

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

A dairy deal worth co-operating with

ith more than 40 dairy companies in Ireland and literally hundreds in the UK, it is scarcely surprising that analysts have heen expecting con-solidation in this fragmented Yesterday's proposed merger between Avonmore Foods and Waterford Foods will create an Irish giant to rival Unigate and Northern Foods and could well spark a wave of further merger and takeover activity. The industry has long been afflicted by over-capacity and pressure on prices exerted by

the large supermarket groups. For the two companies con-cerned, a merger has been a long time coming. Avonmore, the larger of the two, first proposed a deal in 1991 but found its terms rejected. Another approach was made last month valuing Waterford at Ir£281m hut that offer was turned down too.

Now the boards have agreed a Ir£377m deal though it still faces a serious hurdle. The merger needs to he approved by 75 per cent-majority of the Waterford Co-op, which controls 68 per cent of its shares, and by a similar majority of the Avonmore Coop members, who also own over 60 per cent of the com-

But the henefits of this deal are clear enough. Brought together, Avonmore Water-ford will have sales of some Ir£2.5hn. It would be the UK's fourth-largest producer of liquid milk and have 20 per cent of the UK cheese market. There should he significant synergy, with analysts talking about potential cost-cutting

Shareholders in Waterford Foods ought to be delighted with this offer. The shares have been a poor investment and collapsed in March following a profits warning caused by delays in the company's rationalisation of its Irish milk husiness. Days later it announced it has also hreached its bank covenants. From their March low of 73p. the shares have been rising following Avonmore's initial approach. But the proposed 142p per share offer still represents a 78 per cent pre-mium to their 110p close last

For investors in Avonmore the picture is not so clear cut. Avonmore, which also has husinesses in food ingredients, meat products, and animal foodstuffs, has been performing strongly of late

doubling since the start of last year. But investors should benefit from the economies of scale. And with analysts forecasting Waterford profits of around £25m this year, the deal means Avonmore is paying a forward multiple of less than 12 times earnings for Waterford, which seems justified given the potential cost-

The Co-op farmers have turned their back on deals like these before, but with the industry becoming ever more competitive this one should be accepted.

Healthy policy at Care UK

are UK is a rarity in the nursing home sector. /While traditional operators have built large nursing homes and hoped local authorities stump up the funds to fill beds, Care UK has focused instead on winning fixed-term contracts from health authorities. Avoiding the local authority market has been smart. As local authority funds have dried up, conventional nursing homes have taken longer to fill, squeezing profits and forcing some operators out of the sec-

Care UK has hucked the trend. Underlying pre-tax

with its shares rising from dends per share rose 21 per The emphasis on fixed term

contracts in Care UK's business means its all-important occupancy levels are way above the sector - the group does not typically huild a home until it has a contract to fill it. And with around four fifths of its 1,000odd beds contracted and a third under contract until 2006. revenues look secure. Care UK's close relationship with health authorities is crucial too - its contract win rate is good and it is picking up unusual business - like a private finance initiative deal to run a cottage hospital in partnership with Stonehaven NHS Trust. With only a handful of the UK's 132 health authorities tendering there is plenty to go

Care UK is also addressing the one weakness of contract work - the patchiness of income. Richard Clough, chief executive, is planning acquisi-tions in specialist markets this year - learning disability, chal-lenging behaviour and psychiatric care - which should smooth earnings growth. The group is not looking ar bids for gearing of just 19 per cent and £20m of hank borrowing facilities, it has muscle to snap up a number of private operators. Broker Collins Stewart forecasts 1997 profits of £4.15m. With the shares unchanged at 118p yesterday, they trade on profits for the six mooths to a rating of 15 times this year's March rose 16 per cent to earnings. That is fair and the £1.9m on £12.4m sales, up 26 group is starting to look good per cent. Earnings and divivalue on 11 times next year.

Avonmore Foods and Waterford Foods: At a glance

Combined market value: Ir£730m

Wanterfall Streng bri	Aftiliation state brice seph trace lost shall brice lead				
1996 trading record	Avenmore	Waterford	Combined		
Sales (Ir£hn)	1.3	1.04	2.34	•	
Pre-tax profits (Ir2m)	36.5	19.8	56.3		
Earnlags per share (p)	17.19	6.3			
Dividend per share (p)	4.5	3,2	-		

Share of UK liquid milk market

Share prices painst FT All Share Index

Continental assets pay for McLeod

CLeod Russel, the air filtration and surface filtration and successful for the coatings group, has maintained consistent progress in the six months to the end of March. Pre-tax profits rose 13 per cent to £4.2m, despite exchange rate losses oo the 40 per cent of its profits earned abroad.

Turnover rose less than 2 per cent to £55.9m, but its operating profits were 15 per cent up at £4.8m. Net interest costs increased by a quar-ier to £571,000 and the tax charge rose from 25 per cent to 28 per cent. Earnings per share rose by a modest 7 per

cent to 5.08p.

Air filters again produced faster growth in turnover and profits, compared to surface coatings, which includes expects great things from Bancrofts, the Birmingham-technology transfers between hased industrial-paint sup-

The group's residual environmental engineering and industrial property sides shrank in absolute and relative terms to less than 10 per cent of the whole. Last year's filter company acquisitions in Germany and France contributed £300,000 and surface coatings has hegun to improve prof-

than in the UK and contrihuted 27 per cent of sales by origin and 43 per cent of profits in the period. James Leek. McLeod's chairman, technology transfers between operating companies and is looking at further acquisitions in the filtration side of the

The strength of sterling cost £200,000 in the first half and is set to reduce the second half hy a further £300,000. But air filtration is growing 2 per cent faster than GDP, and Ben Thefaut at Albert E Sharp is has hegun to improve profitability in a generally static marketplace.

Turnover and profits both grew faster on the Continent

Turnover and profits both grew faster on the Continent

The group's shares rose 1.5p to 150p, valuing them on an undemanding 11.5 times this year's earnings and 10.2 times 1998 earnings.

And now, here's a business text that we prepared earlier



We all know that Valerie Singleton has a way with youth and, of course with sticky-hack plastic. Now the veteran broadcaster is turning her Blue Perer experience to good effect by teaming up with another Beeh stalwart, Peter Hobday, for a series of "talking books" by the "top husiness guru" Ron Holland, designed to encourage more young people to start their own business es. Mr Hobday will be reading such texts as the best-selling Talk and

Grow Rich, Turbo Success and Debt Free with Financial Kung-Fu, while Singleton will take part in presentations with the author. "We are focusing on young people who are looking to start their own husiness. These young people are the future of Britain and need all the help they can get," explains Singleton. All together - "here's a business plan I prepared earlier ... "

Meanwhile, whoever said that business school students were all financial control freaks without an ounce of imagination had better eat their hat. Just ask Peter Casey, chairman of the Casey construction group. Faced with finding a "green" use for 2 million tons of peat that his company was going to dig out of the ground during the building of the M66 at Ashton Moss, he went to Manchester Business School, which runs an annual creative thinking challenge among its MBA students.

Thanks to the lateral thinking encouraged by creativity professor, Tudor Rickards, the peat looks to be heading to a golf course in the Middle East. But in the competition, sponsored by accountants Arthur Andersen; their associated law firm, Garretts; insurance hrokers and risk management consul-tants J&H Marsh & McLennan and Manchester Airport, the students also came up with other ideas, such as processing the peat for cat litter and using it as a sound barrier at the edge of a motorway.

Nikko Europe's new managing director and joint head of research, Simon Briscoe, launched into his new role with an admirable display of dedication yesterday. For although they only got spliced at the weekend. Mr Briscoe and his bride, Marie-Laure Duhot, were both

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

back at their desks yesterday morning. He has been promoted from his previous position as UK economist and head of fixed income research. He will head a new integrated research division alongside Larry Prager. Meanwhile, Ms Duhot. formerly a

high-flier at the European Investment Bank in Luxembourg, has started at the capital markets division of Lehman Brothers. The honeymoon had to take place hefore the wedding, such are the pressures on dual-career couples in the City.

Given the pre-election takeover ma-

hia from the US for British regional electricity companies it was only a matter of time before a senior UK executive went west, literally, with his new masters. Norman Askew, chief executive of East Midlands Electricity, had already been appointed an executive vice president of Dominion Resources, which recently paid £1.3bn for the Nottingham-based group in an agreed deal.

Now Mr Askew, who is 54, is to be the next president and chief executive of Virginia Power, Dominion's main subsidiary and a genuine first in the privatised power industry. East Midland's finance director, Robert Davies, 48, is taking over as chief executive, Mr Askew is reputed to have hit it off from the start of negotiations with Thomas Capps, Dominion's larger-than-life chairman.

Yesterday's announcement ominously noted that Mr Askew, who has run East Midlands for three years, is "familiar with American customs and cultures," having worked in the US for three years. Perhaps he is getting out at the right time. One thing he won't have to cope with is the dreaded windfall tax, hanging over every regional power company as judgment day approaches in the Gordon Brown's

High-profile hiotechnology analyst Nick Woolf has been poached from Japanese hroking house Nomura by

US investment bank, Robertson Stephens. Mr Woolf will become Robertson's first hiotechnology analyst in Europe. Robertson, a private bank based in New York and San Fransisco, focuses on high technology and hiotechnology companies in the US, but is eager to extend its coverage to the fast-expanding European biotechnology sector.

Mr Woolf's appointment is a fur-

ther pointer to growing investment opportunities in the hiotechnology market in Europe. An increasing number of companies across the Continent are seeking to raise money on the London or new pan-European Easdaq stock markets. He will initially be advising Robertson's US clients on investing

in Europe, but the bank wants to build a European client-list offering investment opportunities in US

and European equities.

Referring to last week's share price falls after UK group Celltech said that its leading drug had failed clinical trials, Mr Woolf said that when European share prices were weak, Robertson could provide companies a ready alternative route to market via Nasdaq, the US's technology exchange.

ولكذا من الموصل

eal worth ...

Failed placing takes the shine off Johnson Matthey

Data Bank FTSE 100 4681.6 +19.8 FTSE 250 4508.0 +1.3 FTSE 350 2265.6 +7.9 SEAQ VOLUME 607.5m shares, 46,074 bargains Giits Index

Share spotlight

Johnson Matthey

As blue chips edged back to-wards their peak Johnson Matthey, the metals group, lost 15.5p to 465.5p, lowest for three years. A failed attempt to place a large line of stock and rumours a sell circular was about to anpear did the damage. The shares have been in ragged retreat for the past 95.87

year. A year ago they were riding high at 663p. Then the premium rating began to Mildly disappointing interim figures piled on the agony,

prompting some analysis to pull back their year's forecasts to around £105m, against the £96.1m produced last time. The group is n casualty of sterling's strength. But with its catalytic converter in the fash-ionable area of reducing ex-

baust emissions and hopes

riding high for its electronics

Year's figures are due soon and the sinking shares suggest acute disappointment is on

the horizon. Footsic ended up 19.8 points at 4,681.6 just 12.3 points off its closing peak. In relatively thin trading financials were again the pace setters as the market continued to anticipate the arrival of Halifax next week and later this mooth Norwich Ucion. Financials filled the top seven places on the blue-chip leader board with insurance group Legal &

General to the fore with an 18p gain to 481p.

Abbey ended 12p higher at 944.5p after touching 950p and Alliance & Leicester seesawed from a 13p gain to end

with a 10.5p fall at 627.5p. National Westminster Bank missed out, falling 5.5p to 785.5p over worries about a reported link with City Mortgage



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

Provincial, said to be eyeing Equity & Law, gave np 8.5p to Zeneca was another to experience a topsy-turvy day as Roche, the Swiss group, took

over a German operation, seemingly ruling out the long rumoured strike at the drugs group. At one time down 31p, the shares rallied to close just 2p lower at 1,876.5p with many of the supporters of the takeover story content to exchange Roche for Glazo Wellcome as

the rumoured predator. The surprise swing in the French elections was seen as reducing the likelihood of any

lowering British Aerospace 15p to 1,239.5p and General Electric Co 4p to 354p.
Rolls-Royce dived 8p to 242.5p
as the Cathay Pacific airline
grounded its A330-300 fleet because of problems with its Rolls Treot 700 engioes.

to 711p.
Some football shares had that "sick as a parrot" look. Sheffield Utd's failure to clinch promotion to the Premiership prompted a 20p fall to 45p; the price topped 100p in February and Southampton's managerial vacuum lowered the shares

British Airways, said to be in

talks to buy Alitalia, fell 14.5p

screen franchise group, put on 0.75p to 3.5p oo talk it was planning a deal involving

Swansea City.
Imperial Chemical Industries firmed 4.5p to 798.5p as Salomon Brothers suggested a .12-month target of 900p but BTR, the hard-pressed con-glomerate, had another uncomfortable session, falling Sp to 209p, a 12 mooth low.

Boots, reported to be plan-ning a £400m share buy-back or special dividend, added 12p to 725p. A signalled share buy back at EMI failed to overcome disappointing figures and the shares finished 48.5p down at

BBA, the engineering group, came in for a speculative run, ending 8.5p higher at 329.5p; American Port Services was another said to be on a predator's strike list, gaining 10p to 162.6p.

ACT would oot hit its divi-dends because of the need to retain the payment relationship with the group's Dutch side. Among the oil tiddlers Emerald Energy confirmed it bad been awarded extra exploration acreage in Colombia. The shares firmed 0.25p to

Celltech's sceptic shock drug disappointment cootinued to weigh oo the shares, off 13.5p to 334p. Interim figures are due today. Cortecs International put on 4.5p to 217p as Nomura said buy with analyst Nick Woolf producing a 420p target. The Savoy Hotel low-voting

"A" shares stretebed 15p to a 1.597.5p as speculation cootinued that Granada was near to clinching a deal with the Wontner family which con-

trols the group through the powerful "B" sbares. A favourable trading state-

intriguing joint venture in China, supplying aviation fuel at 16 airports. Fortune, which has I1 petrol stations in China, is looking for other links. It is hoping to sell its British operation to concen-trate on trading in China. There are no plans to give up its London share listing. ABN

> Middlesex Holdings, the metals group run by Masoud Alikhani, is switching stockbroker, from Hichens Harrison to ABN Amro Hoare Govett. ABN Amro is one of the advisers to Gazprom, the

Amro Hoare Govett forecasts

profits moving from £4.7m this year to £6.9m. The

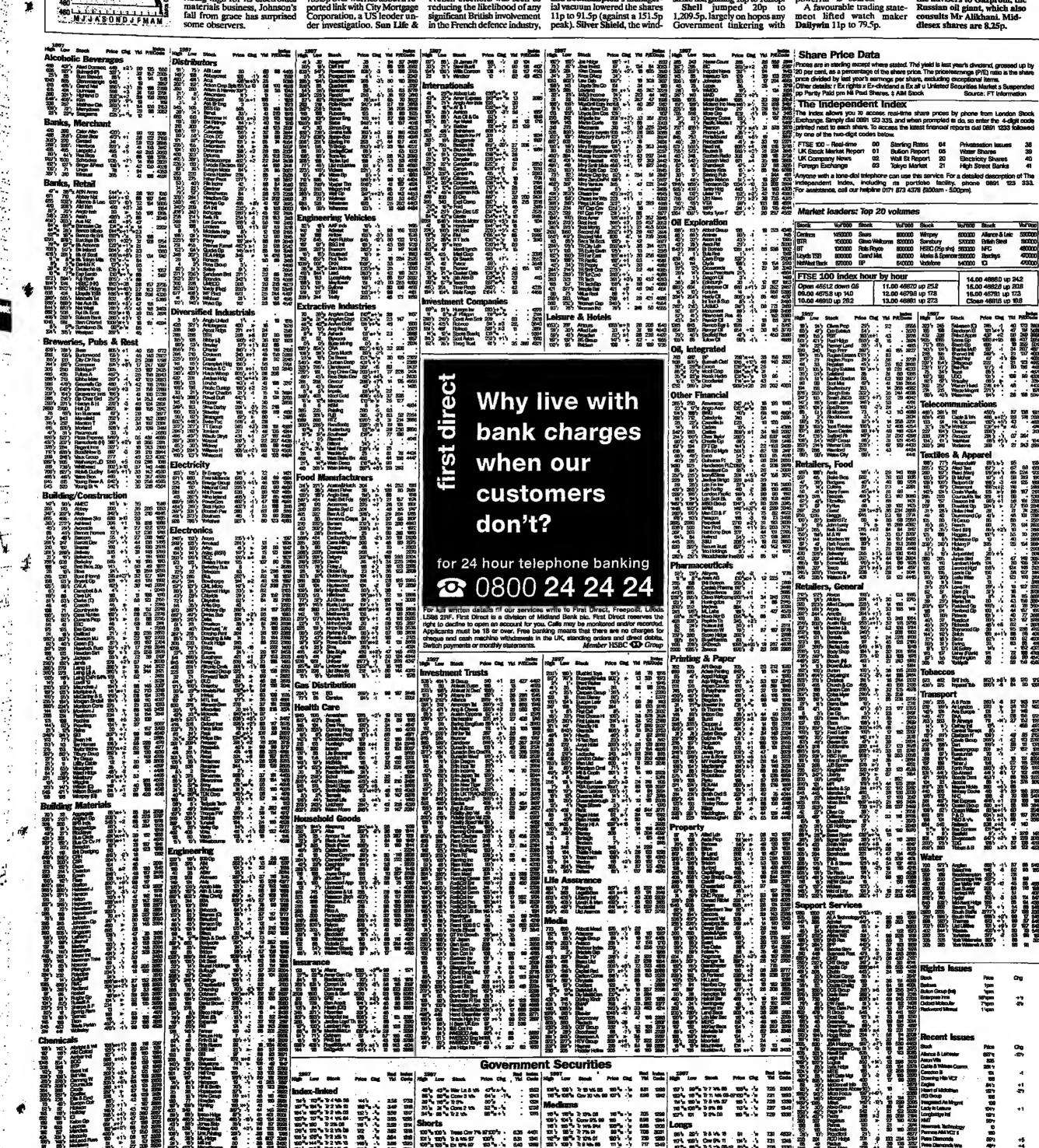
Taking Stock

Fortune Oil's cash call is

now likely in the next two

months. It wants to raise

£25m to help finance its



1,000 1,3901 1,7012 5,7388 1677,4 116,60 1,1458 35,110 6,4798 1,9153 1,51025 7,0825 7,8499 1,4169 1,4169 2,5174 1,4475 3,7502 1,4475

Country

0.5878 0.8112 1.0000 3.3735 996.039 68.5448 0.6130 20.8390 3.8091 1.1247 0.3892 4.4969 0.6356 4.5503 1.4798 0.6508 2.2047 0.8407

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2.50% 3.00%

1.00% 4.125%

POLKESTONE

WITHEL

86-84 116-112 250-331,0 167-165 47-49 24-5-215 390-340 130-124 15-10 453-407 188-4-7 825-275 149-143 4-6 31-53 5-10 60-55

Sterling

6,75% 5,00% 5,25%

5.25%

4.10%

4700 55/60 94/92 114/116 145/132

4750 33/99 70/120 92/143 121/159

110/161

Spain 10-Day Rep

Netherlank Spain Italy Belgluns Sweden ECU OAT

30-29 36-36 119-114 15.5-22.5 56-56 14-15 56-56 129-107 42-40 42-40 8-5 163-163 100-81 50-47 3-5 21-24 7-9 1-4 1-5 163-15

122.4 429.8 201.8 617.5 626.8 60.34 164.9 153.7 151.4 150.7 151.4 150.7 151.4 151.7 151.4 151.7 151.4 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7 151.6 151.7

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UNIT TRUST GUIDE

Fahris on the scent of Epsom conquest

every day.

Racing GREG WOOD

> Preparing a horse for the Derhy is supposed to be about gallops and feeding regimes and a little slice of luck, and one thing the traditional build-up is not supposed to involve is drilling a hole in your star colt's skull five weeks before the race.

So if it is true, as some insist. that Derby winners always have and went very well." a heartwarming triumph over adversity somewhere in their life story, then Fahris should surely be a lot shorter than 16-1 to win the greatest Classic on 7

Fahris took up a prominent place in the ante-post betting for Epsom after his three-length desequent Chester Vase winner, in making his seasonal debut, and

when news emerged from Ben Hanbury's yard of his urgent visit to the local vel.

"Three weeks ago he had a bout of bad sinus." Hanbury said yesterday, "and we had a drill a hole in his sinus to release all the phlegm and mucus. But that's all cleared up oow, he's back in full work, and he worked today over nine furlongs

The colt's rapid recovery is Hanhury but also for anyone who would like to see Entrepreneur seriously tested on the Downs on Saturday week.

According to the stopwatch, Fahris's success in the Fielden feat of Panama City, the subwas a performance of great

market, but started to drift runner should also test the almost sacrilegious idea, popular in some quarters, that Entre-preneur could win the Classic even if he fails to truly stay the

> "The Guineas form has taken some knocks recently," Hanbury says, "and n horse race is n horse race. Look at the num-

race, and I'm really looking for-Fallon contests ban

excellent news, not just for Kieren Fallon will today appeal against an 11-day ban imposed in Italy on Sunday, the jockey's agent Dave Polling said yester-day. If the plea fails, Fallon will miss the Epsom Derby meeting where is due to ride Reams Of Verse, a hot favourite io the Oaks, and 33-1 shot Symonds lnn in the Derby.

Fallon insists the Rome stewards overreacted in standing him down for so long after disqualifying his mount in the Italian Derby. Jimmy FitzGerald, who trains Symonds Inn, says he will reserve the ride for Fallon, despite speculation that a replacement is being sought. Results, page 27

odds-on shots that get beaten

"I'm not disputing that he's the one we all have to beat, but

you never know how they're go-

ing to feel on the day, or

whether they'll have had luck in

running.
"There'll be a big field for the

the Fielden Stakes at New- as a son of Generous, Hanbury's ber of even-money chances and ward to it, I've got a good middle-distance bloodlines promised much better things to

Hanbury's anticipation is all the greater because Fahris will be his first runner in the Derby (just as Shaamit, incidentally, was Willie Haggas's first attempt at the race 12 months

ago).
"It's very exciting," he said. "I've been training for more than 20 years and had lots of good horses and three Classic winners, but never even a runner in this race. Bin Ajwaad would probably have started favourite for it four years ago but he broke his left leg when he was second to Kingmambo in the French 2,000 Guineas." The trainer inherited Fahris from the oow-retired Tom

Jones, for whom the colt made

two encouraging appearances as

come as a three-year-old. The one thing I know that Fahris will do is stay, so hopefully he'll be going on at the end and Entrepreneur will be stop-

ping. All he needs now is just two more bits of work, and then we just have to keep fresh and "Everyone with a runner.

Michael Stoute included, is just trying to get them there in a good frame of mind, happy and relaxed. "But the trainer will be a bit tense. I can tell you."

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Sovereigns Court (Newbury 7.20) (Cartmel 3.00)

YARMOUTH

HYPERION 2.10 Fairy Domino 2.40 Swan Lane 3.10 JUNIE (nap) 3.45 Godmersham Park 4.15 Shoreleave 4.45 Isis Honda

GOING: Good to Firm (back straight - Firm).
STALLS: Straight - far side: 2m - stands safe; temainder - maide.
ORAW ADVANTAGE: light for 5f to 1m ORAW ADVANTAGES 11(th for 5) to 1m

Left-find course, level and 1nt

Course north of toten on A 149, Yarmauth station 1m. ADMISSION: Claib 5 12 (OAPs 5 11 to Tatle scale 58.50 (OAPs 57.50); Family and rourse enclosure 5 4.50 (OAPs 57.50). CAR PARKS 51.

LINKERED FIRST TIME: Excelent 2 110, Moorhird (4.15), Law

Thomas Lincoln 4 4.70. The Parks. Dancer (visored, 1.45); Perfect Angel (visored, 1.45); WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None, WINNESS IN THE LAST DEVER HATE: None, LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Lycius Touch (4 U) has been sent 3.28 miles by A Newcombe from Humshaw, Devon.

2.10 REPPS SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 2YO 5f 43yds

BETTING: B-11 Fetry Domino, 9-2 Zig Zag, 13-2 Arts And A Lag, 8-1 Sens Rivate, 10-1 Eurofen, 20-1 Aukinjon

2.40 SOUTH NORFOLK CATERERS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 3YO 1m DUKHAN (USA) R Ametrong 8 C...... FINAL WARNES (LC) J Banis 9 O... 0-2 HEAVENLY RAY (USA) (KZ) J Fanshame, 89... RMER TWEED J Gosten 8.9... SWAN LAME (USA) J Gosten 8.9...

- 10 declare BETTING: 9-4 Swen Lane, 5-2 Mobilafol, 9-2 Houverly Ray, 7-1 River Twood, 8-1 Daldren, 12-1 Bint Shihuma, 14-1 Rear Estate, 20-1 others

3.10 APPLEGATE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO fillies 1m 020-00 OUR WAY (15) C British 9 7. 020-00 CUR WAY (LS) C British 9 7. B Dayle 6
0215-0 REVER OF FORTUNE [22) M Tomplan's 9 2. D Biggs 7
000-06 JURES (4T) T Male 9 1. W Ryam 4
460-03 CALAMANIDER (11) W Mar 8 12. K Parlon 9
500-0 FORMICALIDETTE (30) J Borne 8 10. J Banel 6
41046 SINGFORTOLIESUPPER (255) G Marguston 8 6... 6 Burchwell 9 00-025 POKER PRINCESS (20) M Bel 85...

3.45 DAVID STOTT HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 7f

- 15 declared
Minimum weight 7:1 10th True handisap weight Hadostable 7:1 5th, Dia Georly 7:1 3h, Spanish Stripper 7:2 2h, Perseptone 6:1 12h,

BETTNIC 9-2 Gymerak Plyer, 8-1 Ertlen, Godinershaw Park, 7-1 Mazzorando, 8-1 Minimum, Solley Ann, 10-1 Watch The Fire, 12-1 Others

3.55 GLANMOOR CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,500 added 1m 1f 149yds

___ A Whele ___ D Hole

a juvenile, but even then his 4.15 SOMERTON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 2m 30-050 14009BBRD (19) JL Harrs 87... BETTHER: 7-4 Fortune Hopper, 9-4 David Summait, 9-2 Show Imprises, 13-2 Moorbird, 7-1 Zafarelli

4.45 SEA PALLING APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 1m 2f 21yds

Mir weght: 7st 10th. True weght: Partnerusse 7st 9th, Acerbus Dubis 7st 7th. BETTRAC: 11-2 Esperto, Jails Roads, 6-1 Time Of Night, 7-1 Paronomasia, 5-1 Bigelands, 8-1 Law Dancer, 10-1 Bobbitt, tyckes Touck, 12-1 others

FOLKESTONE

2.20 Runs in The Family 2.50 Saint Malo 3.20 Ocean Park 3.55 Ashby Hill 4.25 Abtaal 4.55 Ivor's deed 5.25 Farley Green

GOING: Good to Firm [Good in places.]. STALLS: Straight course - mands safe, round course - inside, DRAW ADVANTAGE; Low for 5f & 6f, high for 7f to 12f. If high-hand, including course with a run-in of one furious. If course is 8m W of town off A20, Westenhauser station (service from London, Charing Cross) adjous rourse ADMISSION: 59 (under 16s free), CAE PARK; Free, BLINKERED FIRST TIME; Esta Maris (A20), Le Shuttle (veored) (4.26), Steinow Was A Kind viscous) (4.26).

(4.25), Skippy Was A Kiwi (visored) (4.56)
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN OAYS: Opera Built (3.20) won at Brighton on Friday, Effectual (1955) won at Kematon on Saturday, LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS, Dorado Beach (5.25) and 220 miles

	2	2.20	BREDE added f	HANDIC	AP (C	LASS 5f	E) £	4,50
1	1	2236-0	ANOTHER B	TICHWORTH	(6) (D) E W	heeter 59	3.AD	my 53 3
	3	402-0	SHITTING	ME (16) I B	Ming 398	3	·	Darle
1	3		SONGSHEE					
	4	025162	RING IN THE	FROMEY (9)	DIBBG	bont 59	3_DH	mison S
	5	500020	PEARL DAN	N (5) (D) P	Clarke 78	12	N	Adems
1	8	200-00	THE FUGATI	VE (11) P M	retrel 4 B	B	A Wh	E) nete
1	7	-30154	COLLEGE N	GHT (5) S C	Williams 5	86	_MH	anny (3
1	58789	60/5-0	POPPY MY	DAE (TT))	Campbell 4	8 3	-	R Price
1	9	0050	MIDMENT	MES (296)		382	G	Outliek

- 9 declared BETTING: 5-2 Runs in The Family, 9-2 College Night, 11-2 Another Satchworth, Shifting Time, 23-2 Songshout, 7-1 Pearl Deem, 18-1 uthers

2.50 WESTENHANGER MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 added 240 6f O BEN RINNES (10) R Johnson Houstlen 9 0 ELEMENTH DUNE (47) (BF) R HERMON 9 0... FAR-SO-LA (47) T Jones 9 0 ... A Dely (5) 24 MPULSE (33) A Janks 9 0W J O'Cormor 6 .5 Synders 7,T Quice 3 5 RED MAPLE GISAS (LOS P Cole 90. O SWIFT ALLIANCE (10) R Alichust 90... 32 SOFT TOUCH (37) Gay Kellaway 8 9..

3.20 LYMPNE LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 added 1m 4f

4.25 SELLINDGE CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,300 added 6f 189yds

0-5000 KRISCLIFFE (11) 6 Lens 4812..... 6-3211 SCHTHEBURY (16) K Burie 488....

SELLINDGE CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) (Div II) £3,300 added 6f 189yds

BETTING: 3-1 hor's Deed, 5-1 Rind, 7-1 Wag Of A Prayer, 8-1 Keen Waters, Inhebox Jive, Skippy Was 4 Kini, 20-1 Ladybower, 24-1 others 5.25 MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,700 added 3YO 6f 189yds 0-0 NORMAN (1/) A 7 JOSE 5 (1 MONTO)
3 NOON (501) A 1 JOSE 5 (1 MONTO)
5 SIFWA (1/4) O (7 MONTO)
- 11 declared - 10 MONTO)
5-7 Farlay Green, 3-1 Gold Green, 4-1 Moon Song, 13-2 Goldman, 10-1 Paler Parfect, 14-1 Juveniin, 20-1 Kilden Boy, 5 Monto

CARTMEL

2.00 Palace River 2.30 Indian Jockey 3.00 Hornblower 3.35 in Good Faith 4.05 Jessolie 4.35 Lagen Bridge

GOING: Good to Firm (watered).

Left-hand, level course. Run-in, which is on a separate rhule, is 800yd and the longest in the country.

Course is 15m from Kendal on B527). Bus service from Grange-over-Sands station 2m. ADMISSION: Parklock \$10 (OAPs 55, under-18s free); Course \$4 (OAPs 52). CAR PARK: Paddock \$5,

course free.
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ballying Cry (3.00), Praise Se (visorei) (3.36), Don't Tell Judy (4.05).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Indian Jockey (2.30) won here on Saurday. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Indian Jockey (2:30) sent 268

2.00 ENNINGS NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £3,000 added mares 2m 1f 110yds

- 10 deciment -se's Compant 4-1 Gebrielle Gerant, 5-1 Telepa, 5-1 Palace

River, Analogical, 7-1 Derring Flore, 12-1 No Takers, 16-1 other

2.30 STELLA ARTOIS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m If 110yds 1 111111 INDIAN JOCKEY (4) (CD) M Pre 5 12 0 AP MicCay
2 61PP1 STEAKER'S HOUSE (25) Dy Mas I Rusel 8 10 9 A Thombin
3 3202P3 6LAZING DANN (2) (CD) J Hubbuch 10 10 3 B Storey
4 10623U CARDIENDER (2) I Barday 9 10 0 P Carbony
— 4 declared —
Minhaum weight: 10st. True hendicap weight: Cardender 9st.
BETTINE 4-8 Indian Jockey, 4-1 Speaker's House, 9-2 Stazing Dawn, 8-1
Cardender

3.00 JENNINGS CUMBERLAND ALE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £3,000 added 3m 2f 210224 ACROSS THE CARD (11) C Ramsay 8 12 4 Jak M Boodsame (7) 210224 ACROSS THE CHEEF (13) C HORROW S 124 MEY M BENEVARING (T) 53UD43 FORDSTOWN (2) JOHN RACHOR 8 12 4 Mey M BOOKSOF (T) 600050F (T) 600050F (T) 700050F (T) 8 ME AND (13) P FORSE 9 12 0 Mey M M M J Russly (T) 8 311111 HORNESLOWER (25) R Ford (1) 12 0 Mey C Ford (T) V

-P1235 PRIORY PIPER (23) Mrs J Moute 8 12 0.

- 10 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Ocean Park, 4-1 Florestino, 9-2 Opera Buff, 1J-2 Russian Rose, 7-1 Initall, 8-1 Corol's Overan, 18-1 Gazunir, 12-1 others

stown, Will Travel, 10-1 Across The Card, 12-1 Raffying Cry, 16-1 others

3.35 DRY BLACKTHORN MADEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f 110yds 000P6 PRAISE BE (FT) (21) TTate 7 11 5 PS-603 SALKELD KING (26) M Barnes 5 11 5. PG3-30 STARLIN SAM (18) J Sisterson 8 11 5 R Goes 8 STONE CROSS (F12) M Todhunter 5 11 5 P Conhenn

4.05 JENNINGS SNECK NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 2f

PSP554 ROYRACE (7) W M Bishoune 5 11 0 R Go DODG WOODHOUSE LAME (26) N Chamberlan 5 11 0

BETTHIC Evens Jessofiu, 11-2 Good Hand, Northern Star, Riconing 12-1 Royace, 10-1 Barnstonner, 25-1 Don't Tell Judy, 50-1 oth 4.35 PIONEER FOODS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 6f

2151U1. LAGEN BRIDGE (34) (D) 0 Molfatt 8 12 0 _____ D J Molfatt
151332 SUPERIOP (28) (BF) L Lings 9 11 8 _____ R Supple
(31-5U GRACEAK CYRNAD (2) (D) N Chemberlain 8 10 0 ____

HEREFORD

HYPERION 6.30 Name of Our Father 7.00 Jay Jay's Voyage 7.30 Tight Fist (nb) 8.00 Fleet Cadet 8.30 Dubelle

GOING: Good to Firm.

Bight-hand course with 300yd run-in.

Course is Nof city on A49. Bereford station 1m. ADMISSION:
Club 512; Tattersalls 53; Course Enclosure 55, CAR PARK: Free.
BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Napoleom's Gold (viscord) [7,00).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Zingshar (8,00) won at Fortwell on Monday.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Cool Luke (7,00) scal 189 miles by F Murphy from West Wilson, North Yorkshire.

6.30 BUTTAS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

7.00 EDWARDIAN SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 6) £3,500 added 3m 1f 110yds OP-PPO DESERT RUN (6) P Rection 9 11 13 _______ \$ Bearough #231(1/5 SPENS TO IT (28) (8) M Ppo 11 11 9 _____ A P MCCPy 500-2P REGIAN ROAD (10) Mass A Enthroso 33 11 5 ____ K Ganta 1PPOP4 WOODLANDS GENERIC (22) (0) P Pitchard 12 10 10 _____ | Company | Comp

Minimum weight: 10st Tue handcap weights reason 9st 8b, Nepaleon's Gold 9st 7b. BETTING: 3-1 Spring To b, 13-2 Jay Jay's Voyaga, 8-1 L'Uomo Pla, Turpha's Green, Loughdon, 10-1 Booling Minick, Jorjan Cheddelgh, 12-1 others

64212F SLEAZEY (33) [0] J O NeW 6 11 6 ____ 2.4U02. TIGHT FIST (LE) (D) MISS H Kingte 7 11 6. FTROW (7) 6PPP36 HAGEL DAMES (LE) CHEVISCH 911 0... MISS A DIRECT (7) CHEVISCH 911 0... MISS A DIRECT (7) A CHICAT 7 11 0... D MISS A DIRECT POWN D LINE AS A DIRECT POWN D 304304 STEER POINT (18) R Frost 6 11 0 ... -2P53F SURBALA SHINE (13) 5 Clark 9 11 0 _____Miss R Clark (7) 11304F ZINE LAME (25) (D) J O'Stree 5 10 8 _____M A FREGUENIC -8 deciated -BETTIMS: 6-4 Tight First, 4-1 Steamey, 5-1 Zine Lame, 13-2 Steer Point, 8-1 Spekala Shine, 14-1 Quarter Marker, 20-1 Hugh Daniels, 33-1 Ka-

7.30 CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m

8.00 RICHARD DAVIS MEMORIAL CONDI-TIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 1f

- 5 dischard -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Roc Age 9st 9lb. BETTINE: 7-4 Ficet Gatet, 2-1 Zingfluer, 2-1 Pair Of Jacks, 8-1 Solem

8.30 GARNSTONE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,100 added 2m 3f PP1313 INCH EMPEROR (33) 4 Carrol 7 11 11

3030P1 DUBBLLE (25) (CD) J Verg 7 11.8 _______ T J Musphy 32P431 CALL NER ALBI (20) Mrs J. Richards 6 21.3 _____ M Richards 8 140342 CASTLECONNER (20) Are S 11.1 _____ T Prob 8 115F23 MINISTREST (2) (CD) P Hobbs 8 10 9 ____ SF R Widger (7) 32904P VALLINGALE (6) Mrs H Kristit 6 10 6 OFTPP4 SERRY'S PRIDE (5) J Mulins 6 10 0-

- 7 deciared - Minimum weight: 10st. True handkop weight: Geny's Pride Std 12th. BETTING: 11-4 Dubelle, 7-2 Miners Rest, 9-2 Cell No Albi, 11-2 Castinosser, 13-2 lack Emperor, Vallingele, 14-1 Gerry's Pride

9.00 LEDGEMOOR "NATIONAL HUNT" NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 2f 346/44 BECK AND CALL (21) Mass V Williams 8 11 0 N Williamson 221213 DECYBORG (FR) (28) (D) (ER) M Pgc 8 11 0 A P McCo 0-002P RELUCIONO (92) J O'Shee 7 11 0 ... 0041 STEP IN LINE (45) 6 McCourt 5 11 0 ______ D Forth (3) P-PP13 TRUE FRED (25) Mrs 4 Price 8 11 0 ______ A Thomsion AMENOSITY S Knight 7 10 9 _______ T Dencombe LADY ROSEBURY (11) R J Price 7 10 9 ______ 7 J Mamphy

— 5 cocareo —

BETTHO: 9-2 Back And Call, Dacyborg, 11-2 Reluction, 6-1 Step to Line,
Pannilyn, 20-1 True Fred, Autmostry, Lady Resetury

HYPERION 6.40 Empirical 7.10 Ultra Boy 7.40 Niger's Lad 8.10 Telchiid 8.40 Tarradale 9.10 Greek Palace

GORNG: Good (Good to Firm in places).

STALLS: Round course – inside; straight 2m – stands side.

STALLS: Round course – inside; straight 2m – stands side.

STALLS: Round course – inside; straight 2m – stands side.

STALLS: Round course – inside; straight 2m – stands side.

STALLS: Round course. A sharp track with tight bends.

Explaintand course. A sharp track with tight bends.

Explaintand course. A sharp track with tight bends.

Explaintance can be extra to the caty on BEUSG. ADMISSION: Cabb \$1.2;

Course is east, of the caty on BEUSG. ADMISSION: Cabb \$1.2;

Takternalls \$8 (OAPA 57); Sheet Ring \$4 (OAPA 57); Course \$2.50

(accompanied trader-) & force of enclosures \$8; remainder free, up to four occupants in course enclosure \$8; remainder free.

BLINICERED FIRST TIME: Bold Brief (8.40); Euroquest (8.40);

Fine Times (visored, 8.40).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAIS: None.
UNION-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Balawing 16.40) sem 213 miles by
LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Balawing 16.40) sem 213 miles by
Martyn Meade From Sherston, Witchine; Young Precedent (8.10) sem
198 miles by P Harris from Aldrery, Oxfordshire.

6.40 LISHMAN, SIDWELL, & PRICE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,350 2YO 5f ARE YER THERE (1.7) M W Easterby 9 0 _____ G Parkin (8) 15 ARE YES HELD (17)
ARE YES HELD (17)
AND HELD 0 MARTON MOSS (SWE) CLID T Esserby 9 0 ____ A Cathang 11 PRINCE ASPALEIGH P Hastern 9 0 _____ Date Gloves 10 PRINCELY HER M Johnston 9 0 _____ J Wesser 19

RA RA IBASSPLITIN S McMeinon 8 0 ... REACH FOR 4 STAR C Thomson 80 ... SHARP SHOOTER MIS J Ramsten 9 ... TOM DOUBAL (12) C Smain 9 0 VELVEL STORY I TIMES 9 0 ... P Feetbey (5) O CHOER HILLS (32) M W Ess

16 HAPPY DAYS AGAIN! Washin 89 ______ Feeding 18
19 THREE HENNISS | Boys 69 _____ Fe Durcins (5) 8
- 19 declared BETURE: 3-1 Empirical, 5-1 Priscotly Holt, 8-1 Entimolog, Clader Hills, Turee
Tempore, 12-1 Sharp Schools, 15-1 Marton Mose, Prisce Aubloigh, Ra Ra
Respettle, Tota Douglei, 20-1 others

7.10 RIPON FESTIVAL' CLAIMING STAKES £3,500 3YO 1m 331-52 **SOUNCE LASSIE** (93) (D) (BF) C Thorson 8 20103 SINVERS PLYER (19) Ron Thorson 8 10... 33-000 STRELITZA (11) M W Easterby 7 12...

BETUNG: 7-2 Skyers Flyer, 4-2 Bossie Lause, Ultre Boy, 5-1 Moth Syn phony, 5-1 Fortune Hauter, 9-1 Strelltzs

7.40 REPON FARM SERVICES HAND-530-04 MISHFLYING (23) (CD) 6 M Moore 11 9 13 ______ Tate 7 000-04 MISEL'S (AD (212) (BF) P Houlam 59 11 ____ R Phonol (5) 2 00-000 CHARTER (12) W Storey 6 9 8 ______ J Supple 5 412-00 FRENCH NY (USA) (LB) (D) F Mapply 10 9 6 ____ F mains 6

-44234 HASTA LA VISTA (16) (C) (C) (OF) N. W. Esquity 7 8 3

8.10 AMEC CIVIL ENGINEERING HAND-ICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 1m 00-300 BAND ON THE RUN (25) (0) 6 McMahon 10 10 G.L Newton 3

50-000 GBLING DANCER (33) (D) P Caker 47 10 Danner Modifiet (3) 10

4-10 THREE FOR A POUND (23) (D) J Gover 8 7 _____ 6 Curber 13 004-00 MEDNIGHT SHIFT (16) R Guest 9 5 ______ P Bloomfleid 3 3122-0 GIPSY PRINCESS (22) M W Easterby 9 4 ____ 8 Purkin (5) 5 8

310330 SINNET (11) M Potstase 8.8 00-00 ANEITA (23) Miss 6 Hall 8.8 ___ Louis 1/ -00504 NEWN CO C2] J QUENTS / 50:000 BOLD BRIBE (2) 0 Fmin 86 30:005 SPARKLING HARRY (5) Miss L Siddle 8 4 ... 405413 CHILLING (6) (5) N Trider 8 3 ... 50:600 DEE PER DEE CEE (18) M W Existity 8 0 ...

9.10 ST AGNESGATE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 1m 2f

l		DERBY DARBAK (USA) J Gosden 4 9 10 Carr	0
2	50-	EUPHORIC ELLUSION (246) Mrs S Smith 6 9 10 0 Peers	d
3	40	WELL ARMED (11) J / O'Neil 6 8 10 Forts	O
ı		ASSET ALHEND (12) 8 Harbury 9 8 10	
,	33	GREEK PALACE (12) M Stouts 3 8 10	
i		MORTHERN FLASH F Hurphy 3 8 10	
,		NOTIFICATION WHO IS 3 & 10	ø
3		SPICK AND SPAN C Thorreon 3 8 10 N Curb	ď
3	3-63	TAURIT (18) 0 Mortey 3 8 10 & Carl	à
٥	0	AVRO AVIAN (18) M Camacho 9 8 5 Chamo	C
1	. 90	COCHETT (12) C Thornton 385	a
2	. 0	KAYFIYAN (16) D Motor 3 8 5 Fento	a
_		SOUTHWEST AND LIGHTED DE A CHEMINA	_

NEWBURY

HYPERION 5.55 Katah 7.20 Perfect Call 6.20 Mr Bomb

7.50 Tamure 8.20 Golden Hadeer 6.50 Walk The Beat GOING: Good to Soil. STALLS: Straight course – stands side: Round course – inside DEAW ADVANTAGE: High for ôf to 1m on straight course.

STALES: Straight course - stands side: Round course - inside.

DEAW ADVANTAGE: High for it to Im on straight course.

Left-hand course.

Course is routh cast of town near A34. Rad station (service from London, Paddington) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$14 (Juniora 18-21 \$7): Tattersalis S8; Siver Ring \$4 (OAPs half price). Accompanied 17-year-olds or under free all enclosures. CAB PARES 52, free pariong available.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: J Goaden - 31 winners from 128 runners gives a success rateo of 24.2% and a profit or a \$1 level stake of \$76.01; R Esamon - 28 winners, 417 runners, 6.8%, -\$195.71; P Cole - 23 winners, 162 runners, 12.7%, +\$30.71;
R Charlings - 18 winners, 116 runners, 16.7%, +\$2.70.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH ENDERS, 15 mines, 80 rides, 18.9%, +\$7.97; L Destort - 40 wins, 212 rides, 18.6%, +\$17.28; T Quitus - 31 wins, 260 rides, 11.6%, +\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 257 rides, 11.4%, -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 257 rides, 11.4%, -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%, -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 257 rides, 11.85; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.4%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides, 11.5%; -\$15.83; Pax Eddery - 31 wins, 250 rides,

5.55 EBF BOXFORD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 270 5f 34yds Penalty Value £3,610 2YO 5f 34ydis Penrality Value £3,610

1 O BLUE SHADOW (LID) (J 8 R Lissure Lid) R Harman 9.0. Dene O'Nelli 1.

2 CONTACHY CASTLE (Mrs E A Leminisch 8 Meeten 8.0 Pat Eddowy T. 3 MADDE (Mrs) (Mrs Ed A Leminisch 8 Meeten 8.0 Pat Eddowy T. 3 MADDE (Mrs) (Mrs A Molecure) 8 Mrs 9.0. R Hells 5.4 JOHN FERMELEY (Richard Green Grine Pelvings) P Cole 9.0. 7 Quiton 3.5 SANTONE Stonetion 9.0 Familie 7.0 R Horghes 1.0 SANTONE Stonetion 9.0 R Horghes 1.0 SANTONE STONET 1.3 (Mrs Jumen Madors, Mrs Barrage W Janus 9.0 S. Brade 2.7 WOISER PORCE (B.7 Amendoungin & Batrage 4.0 S. Browne 6.2 Conservatione 1.13) Jumen Madors, Mad Bladraged 8.9 J. Quiton 6.8 MADAH (Hermon At Maleturum 1 Gostien 8.9 J. Detted 5.8 MADAH (Hermon At Maleturum 1 Gostien 8.9 R Perbass 4.0 BETTING: 11.4 Katab, 9-2 Hedid, Compandons, 7-1 John Ferneley, 8-1 Santone, 10-1 Blue Shadone, 12-1 Contracty Credite, Reseten About, 16-1 officers.

1986: Reven Master 2.9 0 J Red 11.4 (P Crapple Hyard dater (B) 7 can FORM Gillipe

Compressione was a 25-1 shot when besten a length and a hell by Pool Music on her invoduction at Salisbury two weeks ago and that experience will stand her in good stead

Compressors was a 25-1 shot when besten a length and a helf by Pool Music on her introduction at Salisbury two weeks ago and that experience will stand her in good stead with only one of her nine mals having had a race. Even so, this can go to CORTACHY CASTLE. Trained by Brian Meehan, who landed a trible on Saturday, the cot is by Pips Pinde (who was a good sprinter) out of an Ahandoon mare who won at a mite and he feiched 16,000grs as a yearing, howing originally gone for IRT,000grs as a feel. Richard Hannon rius Elber Shaddow, who wall have benefited from his unplaced debut run hers, and the newcomer Shaddoon, who wall have benefited from his unplaced debut run hers, and Pinc Du Jockey-Club victor Old Vic. Paul Cole's debutants are always worth a second look, especially at this track, and John Fernaley, a son Polar Falcon, can also figure. Barry Hits has had a couple of freem juvenile scores and runs the link River ook Haddid, who link Goddon, who won with the juvenile Mijana here last month, saddes the Arza debutants Katekh, half-sister to a useful type in Whessah.

Selection: CORTACHY CASTLE

6.20 BASINGSTOKE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,110

,	0-6	ARTHUR'S SEAT (29) The Queen Lord Hurseyston 9 7
2	452-20	MR BOMBASTIQUE (15) (K Al-Sad) 8 Hals 9 7 Pat Editory
3		LUDO (16) (Michael Pescoti R Harmon 9 4
4	-30043	CHIEF PREDATOR (USA) (4) (Scott Trotter Partnership) R Hannon 9 1 Beld
5	0040-0	PADDY HURRY (36) (Gallagher Malenols Ltd) N Callaghan 8 9
6	0-	HOT SHOT (318) (C.) Pernicky G.L. Moore 8.8
7	0-0021	DOUBLE GOLD (4) (C) (Michael Edwards) 8 Meetran 8 7
8		EPONINE (B) (Room Okey) M Channon 6 7
9	000-0	CIMBER ROCERS (18) (NV H Ponsonbyl O Arbuthnot 8 6
		- 8 declared -

SETTIMO: 11-4 Mr Bombastione. 3-1 Double Cold, 4-1 Eponine, 5-1 Lotin, 8-1 Chief Pre-

BETTING: 11-4 Mr Bumbastique, 3-1 Doeble Gold, 4-1 Eponine, 5-1 Lutin, 8-1 Chief Predator, 12-1 Arther's Seet, 15-1 Paddy Huny, 25-1 others 1996: Switt Maden 3 8 BJ Reid 9-1 U Neilleu drown (3) 8 ran FORM GUIDE.

MR BOMBASTIQUE would have more to do in a handucap. Barry Hills' charge, half brother to a useful type in The Deed, work in at Chapstow lest season and wound up with a neek second behind I Can't Remaraber at Donassier in October. Mr Bombastique was besten the same margin by Mister Pink at Haydock on his return and he was not discredited when seventh (of 13) to stablemate The Fly (who is still in the Derby) in a Not handicap at York, Luide had timee and a half lengths to spare over Chief Predator when hey were second and forum of 18 to Scathebury in an 18-numer Windoor claimer, The paor are both trained by Richard Hannon and Lude can confirm that numsing on 6th vorse terms. However, Double Gold rates the main threat. He wen a strain contrast hard-had by eight lengths when odds-on at Warwick on Saturday and meets Chief Predator thind, beaten more than nine lengths) only 3th worse, Eponine, who took manor horious appliest Step N Go at Beverley, can assan go well.

Selection: MR BOMBASTIQUE

6.50 KINGSTON SMITH HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 6f Penalty Value £3,730

- 9 declared - BETTING: 4-1 Night Hermony, 9-2 Mouseh, Always Alight, 6-1 Boyla, 7-1 Walk The Best, 8-1 White Emir, Sen Dendg, 10-1 others 1996: Stoppes Brow 4 8 4 5 Wiveword 5-1 (G L Moore) drawn (1) 8 xm

four races this speach, got up close home to score at Buth nine days ago. He goes off only a 44b higher mark with the 6to penalty and Nieran Fation, who trade him lest time, its again in the sectios. Mansent, winning of his first three faces the year, the first two at Southwell and the other at Wolvenbernpton, flopped when favourite and unplaced to Kira

7.20 MARSH BENHAM HANDICAP (CLASS D) £7,000 added 7f 64yds (Round) Penelty Value £5,345

BETTHIK: T-1 Bee Geen, S-1 Roids, Duello, Berrack Yard, 10-1 Perfect Pel, Victory Tram, Mobblesnerze, Xmeophon Of Cometa, Seez Tormade, Eurober Boy, 12-1 others

1998: Duello 5 8 6 J Quan B-1 (M Blensterrot drawn 135 12 Fan

Duello banded this a year ago but KINOSSILEENDEZE, beaton three parts of a length into second, can reverse that running on 5th more favourable terms, Mick Channon's charge, a course and distance winner in 1994, was successful at Ripon in Apal and was beginn three lengths by Albert The Bear on desperate ground at Chester next time - Duello tailed to recover effer sturnibing and being down on his nose early and finished down the field. three lengths by Albert The Bear on desperate ground at Chester next time — Duello failed to recover effer stumbling and being down on his nose early and finished down the field. The selection ran belief per when market leader for Gadge's Beth race next time but finished a close-up third behind the same two at 36 conduced last Thursday — Shappes Brow such and no better off. Bear Genera won a 19-tunner roce at Saleburg two weeks ago with Zens, Sharep Related and Sovereigns Court (who laids to recover after being hampered nearing but furious) out) all in the ruck. He should be in the shake-up off a 5th higher mark, Raidis, a Lingfield Equatorick specialist, has soored three times on fur in wice of the shake-up off a 5th higher mark. m - and was inched out by Tal-Y. Llyn over course and dis ago. He was also runner-up before that, beaten half a length by Westman's Weigh at Thirsk and, with Pat Eddery taking the ride, can confirm the form with Victory Dwy, who was half a length back in fourth and is 21b better in. Solections KNOBBLETNEZZE

7.50 TARMAC STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 added 1.51.51 and 21 Penalty Value £4,735 1m 2f Pensatty Value £4,735

11.55 sequestr (11) (s7) ik Abulish H Ceci 5 9 5

11.0-3 CAP JULICA (28) (CD) (Marin Myers R Contion 5 8 10

1/ HELICON (610) (Sociothin) Seed bin Suror 4 8 10

53305- RIMER NORTH (285) (D) (Day) Hames) Laby Heines 7 8 10

40.43 TAMERE (16) (9) (D) (Sheich Mahammad) J Goden 5 8 10

4244-2 MILATA (10) (D) (Abhamad Suhai) R Hamon 5 8 10

/2126- SY LEMICA (256) (SF) (S Korghi P Heins 4 8 5

— 8 declared —

Tiblic 5-2 Tamere, 9-2 Helicon, 5-1 Benneth, 13-2 Cab Julica, Will

BETTING: 5-2 Tyanure, 9-2 Holloos, 5-1 Boquente, 13-2 Cap Julicos, Wijara, 8-1 My Lowicia, 10-1 1996: Murajis 4 8 1.0 Pet Eddery 8-1 (P Walwyn) drawn (5) 8 ran

I Size Muraje 4 8. In Pat Coury 9-1, Preserving them for a land of the CAP JULICA had a great season in 1995, scoring five times starting in a Windsor maiden and going on to take four hendiceps, including the Cambridgeshire under 9st 10lb. Roger Charlton's charge has suffered from foot trouble and had only the one roce in 1996, finishing next to last in the Prince of Water's Stakes at Royal Ascot and will have derived considerable benefit from his third behind Alwarms at Ascot four weeks back - he first appearance in 216 days. Tapasine, runner-up behind Lamintania in the 1995 Derby, looks a threat although this is an invadequate distance for him. He also had the one race in 1996, finishing unplaced in the Arc, and was three and a half fergiths in front of Sequestis third to Surgison at Charatily 11m 4ft, Hellood is another who has been difficult to train. He is the winner of his single start so far, a Newmarket melden in 1995 when yn Ucch, and now represents Goldophin.

8.20 KENNETH ROBERTSON HANDICAP (CLASS D) 55,000 added 1m 5f 61yd Penalty Value £3,626 25.000 added 1m 5f 61yd Penahty Value £3,626 25.001

1 230-14 PREMER REFE (21) (38 Cruston) 5 Dow 4 10 0 ... Paid

2 20-06 PREMER REFE (21) (Alexy Peddotols Reing Luminol) P Ecoles 4 8 13 ... Paid

3 226-04 ANCREM GREEF (21) (Alexy Peddotols Reing Luminol) P Ecoles 4 8 13 ... Paid Eddot

4 122-11 RERMS SPRAY (29 UT Heiling) C Horgan 6 9 10 ... Pant Eddot

5 103-0 DURAHA (22) (39) (The Sepret Perinsarph) G I. More 6 9 2 ... S. Whitever

6 CID-01, TORKA (12) Natural March 1 M

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Waughs

come to

rescue

The twins Steve and Mark Waugh proved their well-being but the rest of the Australians signalled their continuing lack,

of form at Bristol, where Gloucestershire bowled them

In the two hours to the close,

Gloucestershire then made 55

for 1, losing Tony Wright leg be-fore to the South Australian Ja-

son Gillespie, who collected his 100th first-class wicket.

challenge starts next week, were

to tune up after their Texaco

whitewash. However, their cap-

tain Mark Taylor, more in need of runs than anyone in the par-

ty, went in first and came hack

without even a single to his

Although short of genuine-pace, the left-armer Mike Smith moved the ball well away from

the left-hander, and the uncer-

tain Taylor edged the fourth ball to give the diving Jack Russell

The tourists, whose Ashes

looking for a long batting day

out in two sessions for 249.

Australia 249 Gloucestershire 55-1

tourists'

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Warwickshire ambushed but Surrey, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire triumph

Kent lifted to victory by Walker

Cricket

DAVID LLEWELLYN reports from Canterbury Warwickshire 304-8 Kent 306-6 Kent win by 4 wickets

A match of two fine innings. a couple of crucial injuries, three umpires and a whole heap of runs was also given a liberal dose of drama, as Kent achieved the rare distinction of hatting second and scoring more than 300 runs to win a

Benson and Hedges Cup tie. Twice the umpires called for their own third man, Trevor Jesty, to adjudicate for run-outs during the Kent chase. Matthew Fleming was not given the ben-efit of the doubt, but Graham Cowdrey, much later on, was.

In four meetings Warwickshire have yet to heat them on the field, their only triumph over Kent coming three years ago in a bowl-out in the indoor school at Edgbaston. They must he wondering what they have to do to overcome Kent out in the middle, especially after Neil Smith had blasted his way to a magnificent century after War-

wickshire had opted to hat. When they took the field things went wrong from the start Allan Donald, Warwickshire's South African fast bowler, sent down 13 wides in his opening over, and then, at the end of his second in which be bowled another one, pulled up with a back injury. But Warwickshire did not roll over. Not even when it became clear that wicketkeeper Keith Piper was

Kent, though, proved un-stoppable. They countered Smith's century with an equal-

DEREK PRINGLE

Leicester 197

Somerset 177

reports from Leicester

The Leicestershire huddle was

back with a vengeance yester-

day as Somerset tumbled to de-

feat in the quarter-finals of the

Benson and Hedges Cup on a

used pitch that offered plenty

to the bowlers but little certainty

to the hatsmen. It was a state of

affairs superbly exploited by David Millns, whose inspired

opening spell of 3 for 36

stopped the visitors' reply in its

tracks after the home side had

reeling at 14 for 3. Somerset

then contrived to drop three

catches, two of them by Richard

in blisteringly good form in oneday cricket in general and this competition in particular. He has now passed fifty in four out of five B&H innings this sum-mer, this one by far his best, and he picked up the Gold Award

Walker's innings was crammed with cultured strokes; clean cuts and devastating drives. His placement at times was breathtaking in its precision, and his certitude at the crease for the three hours he was there was wonderfully uplifting for the Kent supporters. His fall hrought anguished groans from the home crowd. He played around an Ashley Giles delivery and was bowled for a career best 117, having launched three sixes and smacked a dozen oth-

But the Kent innings, far from losing its momentum, picked up if anything as Cow-drey (39 not out) and Mark Eal-ham upped the pace and. although Kent lost the England man, Cowdrey saw them home.

Smith's hundred had been altogether more hrutal but no less pleasurable to watch. Like Walker, be had been in at the start and, like the diminutive Kent batsman, it was a career best in the competition. He too faced 119 deliveries and also hit three sixes, but he managed one more four and eight more runs. Like Walker, he proved im-

possible to contain. He was seeing the ball early, the fielders were picking it up late. By the time he did fall trying to hit Ealham out of the ground, Warwickshire were well on their way to a daunting total. Fleming did hoover up four useful wickers and Ealham a couple but, like their opponents later in the day, Kent found it diffily fine hundred by the chunky
Matthew Walker. He has been

cult to contain the runs on an
extremely good hatting wicket. cult to contain the runs on an

of James Whittaker – the game's

highest scorer - when he was on three and 23. "The culprit." as

before placing the noose,

"stands guilty before you." He

There were three wickets

too for Alan Mullally, though

the last one, Andy Caddick, caught down the leg-side for 38,

was far more crucial than the

first two, as the fast bowler

threatened to put Somerset

back in contention with a 60-run

partnership for the eighth wick-

England may be looking to

when the Ashes gets under

was not granted a reprieve after batting either. Millns re-moving him lbw for a duck.

Even the Essex supporters will bave wanted to catch a glimpse of the Hollioake hrothers at the crease, provided they were tactful enough to make it hrief. What they had to stomach was 26 overs of Alistair Brown, whose 71 in 71 halls made sure that it was Surrey and not Essex who go through to the

fast becoming the most famous parents of the year, were at Chelmsford and lunched with John Major, who will surely do

no worse than runner-up in the Prime Minister of the Year

competition. The ground was full and Essex, after heing put into hat on a pitch which gave the seamers some movement, were guilty of

the innings and begun with four cracking fours, may have been unlucky with one from Martin Bicknell - the best of the The scene was set for sterling howlers - which lifted and

others had less excuse.
Then came the Hollioakes.

The first part of the story went quietly enough when Ben bowled six reasonably tidy overs at brisk medium pace which cost 28 runs. Things hotted up later when the ball was thrown to Adam. His first ball, a loog hop, was whacked by Robert Rollins straight to Ian Salisbury

at mid-on. The Hollioakes both bave a superh cricketing talent and it may he that another of their attributes is that they are lucky cricketers. For good measure

Mark flott was bowled trying to play him to leg. He took 2 for 6 in two overs just to make sure the Hollioake flame was still

Surrey then lost Alec Stewart in the second over of their innings, caught at short midwicket off a mistimed drive. This made way for Ben Hollioake, who produced a short but sumptuous feast of four fours in

lovely flowing arc of the hat, he drove Asbley Cowan wide of mid-on for four. Then he turned

straight drive off a slower hall and then one on his legs was flicked meatily away to square leg for the third four of the over. It was too good to he true then he tried to play Cowan to leg off his pad and was lbw. It

was as if Laurence Olivier had

been cut off in mid-sentence. But Brown is never anticlimactic and his dashing stroke-Graham Thorpe, who was

play was splendid, while dropped three times, helped in a third-wicket stand of 110 in 133 halls and then stayed on with Mark Butcher to see Sur-

the first of his three catches in the opening six overs. Russell, who later snared a stumping victim and conceded no byes, sent the watching chairman of selectors, David Graveney, the message that be

Just six runs apiece, mean-while, for Matt Elliott and Justin Langer left the Waugh brothers to stitch the innings together. They did so with some purposeful batting, putting on 96 in 29 overs, before Mark

mid-on. His 66 off 101 halls inchided 14 houndaries. His brother hit a similar number of boundaries but then played outside the line to Smith to depart eight short of his hundred, off 136 deliveries.

Waugh drove the left-arm spin-

ner Richard Davis to Smith at

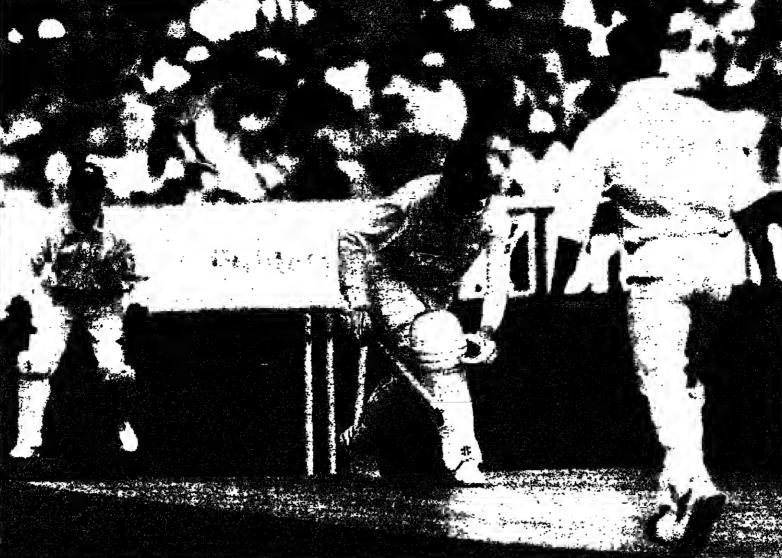
There was a little movement off the pitch, but it was always a typical low, slow Bristol wick-et. Bolstered by their early successes, the home bowlers were

difficult to get away.

The young pace bowler Jon
Lewis, drafted into Gloucestershire side at the last minute. took 4 for 89.

Smith, a Test hopeful, was sparingly used and returned 2 for 26, while the off-spinner Martyn Ball came on late to take the last three wickets. They cost him 56 in 17.4 overs. Australia's last five wickets fell

four-nation Independence Cup in Calcutta after defeating Paksaw fortunes swinging, but the world champions kept the lid firmly closed to win the best-of three series 2-0. Chasing a victory target of 310 in 50 overs, Pakistan were all out for 224 in 43.1 overs. Pakistan were unable to recover from a bad start. Shahid Afridi and Saced Anwar the score on 34. Saeed, the scored against India last week, disappointed his new fans when



Surrey's Adam Hollioake clean bowls Mark llott of Essex during Surrey's six-wicket win at Chelmsford yesterday

Photograph: Robert Hatlam

Hollioakes upstaged by Brown

Surrey 215-4 Surrey win by 6 wickets

its best last Sunday - when Sur-

when Caddick removed the last

man Matthew Brimson, also

Millns makes Somerset suffer

careless batting. Stuart Law, who bad opened

In the next over, with that

his attention to flott. A glorious rey almost home. Capel the destroyer

shire's progress had been brought to a shuddering halt by Capel, his first three wickets coming in four deliveries. He struck first to dismiss Lehmann. who chased a wide ball outside off stump. Anthony McGrath hat-trick ball, drove the next straight into the hands of cover.

ley mis-hooked and David Riphome side's hopes were pinned. David Byas, and a face-saving ley held a steepling catch.

Roh Bailey, another experi-nced hand, put together an un-turried, unbeaten 70 to guide sixth-wicket partnership of 115 with Bradley Parker (58). Prior to Parker's arrival, York-

went lbw to the next delivery and Craig White, baving survived the More drama followed in Capel's next over, in which Vaughan, then on 36, required treatment for a blow on a finger, which must still have been throbbing when Richard Blakey was caught at second slip as Yorkshire collapsed from 81 for I to 89 for 5. Capct claimed his first five-wicket haut in the competition when Peter Hart-

pampen

Rangers Europea

for Desailth

- A 10 M

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Sri Lanka yesterday won the istan by 85 runs in a match that when both the opening batsmen were back in the pavilion with holder of the highest individual limited-over score of 194. he was out for six.

It was Caddick's highest been bowled out for 197. It should have been less but. score in the competition, and alafter having their opponents though it will be his bowling that

et with Rob Turner.

Benson and Hedges Cup

Quarter-finals **Essex v Surrey**

Grayson not out 10 Bidmet 10 19 Rulms c Stream b Bidmet 10 1 Rollins c Salesaury b A I Holloake 12 C flort b A I Holloake 0 P Cowan c A I Holloake b Lewis 8

Extres (106 s/4) 10 Total (45.5 overs) 21/ Fell: 1-34 2-36 3-37 4-108 5-141 6-162 7 190 8-190 9-207 Bowling: Bickreff 10-0-40-3; Lews 2-1-51-3; Saisbury 8-5-0-39-0; Bernartin 10-1-44-1; B.C. Holloake 6-0-28-0; A. J. Holloake 2-1-6-2.

SURREY
A D Brown b Grayson
A J Slewart c S G Law b Box
B C Hollooke liby b Corean
G P Thompe b Box A Butcher not out Did not bast "A I Hottophe, C.C. Leens, 1.0 K Salt-bury, M.P. Bicknell, J.E. Bernathur, Bowlings Covern 7-0-36-1; Bor. 101-1-60-2; Iran 2-0-16-0; S.G. Law 3-0-15-0; Such 10-1-37-0; Grayson 9-3-0-34-1. Gold www.d. M.P. Bicknell, ISurrey, Umphress: M.J. Michen and J.H. Harts.

nt v Warwickshire thre won toss h c Strang b Eatham

06 S-242 6-242 7

CRICKET SCOREBOARD G R Cowdrey not out ... P A Strang not out Extras (lb8 w20 nb2).

Extrac (108 w.70 nb.z)
Total (for 6, 493 evers)
Falt 194 2-153 3-179 4-227 5-245 6-298.
Did not but: *(\$ A Marsh, M J McCague, D W Headley, Bowling: Donald 2-0-16-0; Welch 10-1-60-1: Brown 10-0-63-1; Gles 10-1-52-1; Small 10-1-51-2; Smith 7.3-0-56-0. dt M J Wall Leicestershire v Somerset

Somerset won toss

M Farmers b Caddick 0.0
Extras lib6 w5 nb45 15
Total (46.2 evers) 197
Falt: 11.28 3-14 4-116 5-139 6-167 7-165 6-190 9-196; 185 6-190 9-196, Bowling: Rose 8-0-37-3; Coddoch 8.2-1-33-1; Nushbay Ahmeri 10-1-26-0; Kerr 4-0-70-0; Trump 10-0-S1-4; Bowler 6-1-24-1.

P O Bowler c Novon b Date G D Rose c Milins b Wells tR J Turner c Smith b Brims

6-115 9-175. Bowling: Mulially 9-1-33-3; Muling 10-0-36-3; Wells 10-3-24-1; Johnson 6-0-20-0; Branson 9-5-0-36-2; Dakin 3-0-18-1. Gold award: O J Milins (Leicestershire). Umptres: B Leadbegter and R A White. Yorkshire v Northants **HEADINGLEY: Northamptonshire**

VORKSHIRE

**D Byas b Mohammad Akram

**M P Voughan c Emburey b Taylor

**O S Lehmann c Ripley b Capel

**A MicGrath Ibw b Capel

**A McGrath Ibw b Capel

**If J Blakey c Bailey b Capel

**I

Felt: 1-12:2-81:3-91:4-81:5-89:6-204:7-220:8-079:9-253. 8-229 9-253. Dtd not bet: P 0 Stemp. Blowling: Mohammad Akram 10-2-43-1; Taylor 8-0-47-1; Cape 10-1-S1-5; Penbertry 2-0-00-0; Curran 6-0-21-0; Emburey 7-0-29-0; Snape 7-0-30-1.

way, two heartily struck sixes batted well, a fact only fully

Tetley's Challenge Series First day of three Gloucestershire y Australia

RRISTOL: Gloucestershire, with nine first innings wickets standing, are 194 rure be hind Australia. Today: 11.0.

Australia vion toss
AUSTRALIA – First trivinga
"M A Taylor c Russell ti Snath .
M T G Elion g Russell b Lewis . M | C Blook of Nessel o Lewis

M E Waugh o Smith Davis

S R Waugh o Smith

M G Besan o Whigh o Lewis

11 A Healy not out

S R Warrie o Young b Lewis

M S Kasprowict b Ball M S Kasprovet b Ball 11
1 N Gibespe c Honcock b Ball
G D McGeath b Ball
Satras (Ib3 16-1)
Total (73.4 evers) 24
Felt 1-0 2-10 3-21 4-117 5-184 6-205 7

217 8-241 9-249, Sowling: Smith 11-3-26-2; Lews 19-2-89-4; Aleyne 7-2-26-0; Marcock 8-1-29-0; Davis 11-3-20-1; Bell 17.4-3-56-3.

To bet: R J Curliffe, T H G Hancock, S Young "MW Alleyne, TR C Russell, M G J Bet. J J Lews. Bowling (to date): Kasprower 5-0-22-0; Mc Grath B-6-6-0; Warne 10-4-13-0; Galestre & Umpires: G I Burgess and P Adams.

Starting today SECOND SCHARPONSHIP (First day or three, 11.0): Chauge OC (Stoke on Tearly Der bythe y Lancature, Stockion CC Compan, Asthoric Hera's Somesses, Hinch by Town OC Longeries we Gamesterure and Company Destrictions of Company

Harden at first slip. As two of and a brace of cover drives appreciated when Somerset those chances came from the bat proved he is no fool with the bat. had plunged to 115 for 8. As in the Leicestershire in-

What intrigued many however, was Somerset's decision to field first with three spinners in largely of their own doing. Si-Judge Jeffreys might have said their side. Mind you, their mon Ecclestone and Mari coach, Dermot Reeve, has Lathwell both dragged-on and made a playing career out of be-Michael Burns edged one he did well to reach. ing contrary, although batting last on a patchy pitch clearly at

> rey's Alistair Brown scored an unbeaten 157 - defied even Reeve's warped logic. Indeed sanity did not much winner, drifted out of position. prevail among the batsmen of either side, and only Ben Smith with 57 played with the required amount of application, as he and Whittaker, with a more flambovant and fortunate 61 to his name, added 102 in 22 overs for the fourth wicket. Aftab Hahib, unbeaten on 43

Unluckiest of all, however, must bave been Grabam Rose. who took the first three wickets of the day. He was caught at mid-wicket off Vince Wells, after Millns, the Gold Award

■ The Sussex pace bowler Jason Lewry hopes to get the goahead to resume training in early June, four months after he underwent surgery on a stress fracture in his lower back. The 26-year-old left-armer is working towards heing fit for the match against the champions, Leicestershire, at Eastbourne in 10 weeks' time.

Rugby League

Si Helens are today holding a

crisis meeting aimed at strength-

ening a squad that is becoming

increasingly fraved at the edges.

Saints, reeling in the aftermath of their record 65-12 home dc-

feat by Wigan on Monday, have

had further bad news, with the

Great Britain hooker, Keiron

Cunningham, needing an ex-

ploratory knee operation this

week. Chris Joynt needs to see a specialist about his shoulder

and will also meet the club with

his representatives next week

over what St Helens' chief ex-

ecutive, David Howes, called a

Sunningdale will celebrate its

centenary in the year 2000 by

hosting the Solheim Cun match

hetween Europe and America.

The news should ensure a

quality field from the States

ben the Weetahix British

Women's Open in August is

played on the classic beathland

Surrey course, the scene of the

sociated the world over with

quality and steeped in golfing tra-

dition, and will provide the per-

fect showcase for the best

"Sunningdale is a venue as-

1987 Walker Cup.

ANDY FARRELL

DAVE HADFIELD

reports from Headingley Yorkshire 253-9 Northamptonshire 254-3 Northants win by 7 wickets

David Capel, who made 97 in a losing cause when these sides met in the Benson and Hedges final 10 years ago, exacted revenge bere yesterday with a superb demonstration of his enduring versatility as Northamptonshire claimed a place in the semi-finals. The veteran former England

all-rounder took a career-best 5 for 51 as Yorkshire were re-stricted to 253 for 9 and then launched his side's winning reply with a splendidly bold 67 off just 59 balls, comprehensively up-staging Darren Gough and Chris Silverwood, the two current England howlers on whom the

Stretched Saints on the rack

number of internal matters that

Howes would not comment on

rumours of strife between Joynt

and the club's captain, Bobbie

Goulding, but, even if everyone

was getting on well, Saints' re-

sources are strained to the limit. "We will be sitting down with

the coaching staff and assessing

what can be done." Howes said

yesterday. There is little point in

sitting down unless money can be

made available, with Warring-

ion's Toa Kohc-Love likely to be

the first purchase if the purse-

future of Phil Sigsworth after the arrival of his fellow-Australian

Peter Walsb to take up a new

Solheim Cup set for Sunningdale

professional women golfers from both sides of the Atlantic," said

Terry Coates, the chief executive

of the women's European tour.

the Muirfield course in Dublin,

Ohio, in 1998 and at Inter-

lachen, Minnesota, in 2002. Swe-

den, who provided four members

of the European team which lost

to the United States at St Pierre

last year, had hoped to host the

tournament in 2000. "They will

be disappointed, but will defi-

nitely he in the running for

After 45,000 spectators over

three days went to South Wales

2004." Coates said.

The biennial event will be at

Uncertainty surrounds the

strings are loosened.

are concerning him".

his side home with four overs to spare but there was only one candidate for the Gold Award.

enced hand, put together an un-

burried, unbeaten 70 to guide

Capel took four of his wickets in nine balls as the middle fell out of Yorkshire's innings. Then, pausing only for a hite of tunch, he returned to crack two sixes and nine fours as he and Richard Montgomerie, very much the junior partner, put on 90 in just 16 overs. Capel gave just one chance, when Richard Stemp spilled a catch that had seemed to be safely in his grasp at third man. The error cost 14 runs.

Having been asked to bat on a grey morning. Yorkshire were indehted to Michael Vaughan (85) for salvaging a respectable total. He and Darren Lehmann put on 69 for the second wicket after the carly failure of

post as head coach at Hull.

Sigsworth, under whom Hull are

undefeated in the First Division

this season, appears to have

been demoted to first-team

coach only, but said: "I will car-

ry on in very much the same

way. I don't have any problem with Peter Walsh heing here."

Hull in hoping to sign Karl Har-

rison, the Test prop whose con-

tract at Halifax expires at the

end of this season.
The Salford forward, Paul

Forber, has been told to appear

at the League's disciplinary

committee tomorrow, over his

role in the incident that saw St

Helens' lan Pickavance sent

The date will also have to be

moved to August or October as

its traditional week clashes with

The announcement came as a

relief to Coates, who two weeks

ago suffered a stormy AGM when his No 2, Gill Wilson,

walked out of the meeting after

receiving abuse from some play-

ers. Wilson has returned as a me-

dia consultant, while Coates will

continue for two years. His main

concern is to retain American Ex-

Colin Montgomeric has with

drawn from this week's Tourna-

ment Players Championship in

last September. Coates said the Hamburg starting on Thursday

event may bave to be all-ticket. "for personal reasons".

press as the tour's sponsor.

the Sydney Olympics.

off last week.

Sheffield Eagles have joined

Detroit reach final in flying fashion

ice hockey

The Detroit Red Wings reached the Stanley Cup final for the second time in three years, dethroning the champions, Colorado Avalanche, with a 3-1 victory on Monday in the sixth game of the Western Conference final to take the best-ofseven series 4-2. The Red Wings now go to Philadelphia on Saturday to play the Flyers in the first championship game. Philadelphia won the Eastern

Conference final when they beat New York Rangers 4-2 to take the series 4-1 on Sunday.

"Our guys showed up tonight," Scottie Bowman, the Detroit coach, said. "We dominated the game and played as if we didn't want to go back to Denver." Detroit, who had 42 shots on goal to Colorado's 16, overran the Avalanche for the first 55 minutes before Scott Young scored off a rebound to cut the margin to 2-1. But Brendan Sbanahan scored into an empty net with 30 seconds remaining to seal the victory.

Martin Lapointe and Sergei Fedorov fired the other goals for the Red Wings, whose 42-year drought in the Stanley Cup is the longest in the National Hockey League. Detroit reached the Cup final in 1995 hut were swept aside in four games by the New Jersey Devils.

The Red Wings, returning

from a 6-0 loss in Denver in the fifth game, outshot Colorado in the first period 14-3. But Patrick Roy kept the Wings from scoring. He stopped Viacheslav Fetisov's htast from just inside the blue line 90 seconds into the contest. He also got a glove on Shanahan's wrister from the low slot with 8:30 to go and smothered Sieve Yzerman's wrist shot with just under two minutes

The Avalanche finally had a scoring chance early in the second period, but Mike Vernon turned aside Valeri Kamensky's wrister.

Detroit finally beat Roy 3-20 into this period when Lapointe hopped off the bench, took a pass from Igor Larionov and hit a slap shot which tipped into the net off the beel of Roy's glove. Roy, however, kept it a one-goal game by stopping Lapointe's backhander with 5:32 remaining.

Detroit kept up the pressure early in the third period and Fedorov put home his own rebound for his third goal of the series and a 2-0 lead. The Avalanche replied with 5:12 remaining. Vernon stopped Adam Deadmarsh's shot from the left circle, but was helpless as Young scored his fourth play-off goal on the rebound.

It was all too late for Colorado and it was left to Shanahan to put the game and the series beyond them in the dying seconds.

عدا ب الرمل

Ashley

Dampener put on the Lions' Border skirmish

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT reports from East London



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Some guys get alt the luck. Last Saturday, the weather gods granted the Lions perfect conditions for the opening match of their South African tour and, on the fast going io Port Elizabeth,

a handful of tourists - Jeremy

Guscott, Will Greenwood and

grabhed the opportunity to lay down their Test markers. By contrast, today's line-up might just as well be playing on a wet Wednesday in Wolverhampion. Both literally and metaphori-cally, it is sink or swim time for some very hig names indeed. This afternoon's match with

Border here is in serious danger of being played on a swamp rather than a rugby pitch and, as a result, the second-up Lions will find it more difficult to im-

Scott Quinnell in particular press, As Scott Gibbs, the powerful Swansea centre who partoers his countrymao, Allan Bateman, in midfield admitted: We'll have to go some to emulate the performances we saw from Will and Jerry sgainst Eastern Province. Will turned in a terrific display and Jerry is oo fire at every training session.

The competition is intense." Whether Border, among the less forbidding obstacles oo this tour, can bring some ex-

mains to be seen. They have endured a rotten time of late; so much so that their best-known player, the Springbok full-back Russell Bennett, said with startling candour yesterday: "The fact that we haven't played for a month is no great disadvantage because it was getting to the stage where playing was do-ing us no good at all."

If Bennett does not expect the current Border side to beat the Lions, as their forerunners did in 1955, he at least anticipates

a sharp upturn in performance levels, personally and collectively. "Some of our team will play a game like this only once in their careers, so there will be no shortage of effort. As for myself, I very definitely have Test ambitions: I haven't had much exposure recently because I haven't been involved in Super 12, so this is a really hig occa-

sion, a chance to remind people of what I can do," he said. Paul Grayson, the England outside-half who has not played

since early March because of muscle problems in his kicking leg, came through yesterday's ther problems.

"It's been a long three months and the thought did flash across my mind that I might not even make it on to the plane," he said. "Everything has turned around brilliantly for me over the last week, though, and the game can't come quick-

ly enough for me." Sadly for Grayson's North-

denied ampton club-mate, Tim Rodber **lucrative** the frustration is set to contio ue. The England No 8 had been due to sit on the bench topay-day day and, with the Lions looking

to use all their substitutes if at all possible, he would have been virtually certain of a first rumble in the famous red jer-sey. But it became clear yesterday that the eye wound he picked up on Monday would not stand up to match demands, so Simon Shaw moves up to re-

place him.

Crawford Ashley's reputation has cost him a lucrative pay-day against the legendary Thomas "Hitman" Hearns in Las Vegas next month.

Ashley, the British and European light-heavyweight champion, would have picked up \$100,000 (£62,000) for fighting the former six-weight world chempion oo 7 June, but Emanuel Steward, the American's former manager, advised

him against taking the bout. Hearns is now self-managed but still turns to Steward, whose training methods have revived the career of the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis, for advice.

"Maooy knows all about Crawford and he told Hearns he was too dangerous to tangle with," Frank Maloney. Ashlev's promoter, said.

Now the Leeds-based Ashley will make a much shorter trip to Alfortville, outside Paris, to defend his European title against the Frenchman Pascal

Warusfel on Saturday. Hearns is not the only fighter to turn down Ashley. The Welshman Nicky Piper, whom Ashley beat for the British title in November 1994, has declined to meet him for the European championship, while Mark Prince, from London.

has forfeited his right to challenge for the British crown. Despite being unbeaten for the last two years. Ashley is no longer rated in the top 12 by the World Boxing Organisation. Ashley's No 2 ranking has gone to the Dutchman, Eddy Smulders, who gave up the European title rather than fight the Yorkshireman. To add insult to in-

jury, Piper is the No 1, with Prince in third spot. The WBO's somewhat illogical findings have prompted Maloney to fax their championships commince, asking them to re-assess the situation, especially as, since the last ratings were published, Ashley knocked out the Spaniard, Roberto Dominguez, in three rounds for the European title.

A nonplussed Ashley said: "Boxing politics have denied me a world-title chance. Boxers should prove themselves in the ring. Now no one wants to fight

anyone in the top 10."

Maloney added: "Crawford is not getting any younger - he was 33 last week - but he is getting trozen out. We even offered Chris Eubank £350,000 to fight him, but he turned us down.

"If we keep getting rejected, we will consider moving Crawford up to heavyweight to fight for the vacant British title."



The amount that was wiped lowing tha club's failure to reach the Premiership after

7.20: 1. POOL MUSIC (R Hughes) 6-1: 2. Banningham Blade 12-1: 3. Nadwah 7-2. 6 mm, 2-1 fav Blueridga Dancer. 1%, sht hd. R Hannon), Totec 56.70: £3.00, £2.70, DF: £14.60, CSF: £60.81.

HEXHAM

6.35: 1. PAPPA CHARLE (8 Storey) 5-4 far; 2. Emperor's Mingle 6-1: 3. Jerveuitr 6-4. 6 mm. 7, dist. (C Parker). Totas: £2.00; £1.10, £6.40. DF: £11.60. CSF: £8.95. 7.05: 1. FORT ZEDDAAN (Richard Guest)

11-2; 2. Two For One 9-1; 3. Banner Year 20-1, 15 ran. hd, 6. (Mrs S Smith), Tote: £6-30; £2-10, £3-30, £5-80. DF: £52-30. CSF: £48.66, Tro; £111-90.

■ Voyagers Quest was yesterday reported to be "absolutely flying" as

the cott prepares for the French Derby on Suoday, "Voyagers

Quest is 100% for Sunday," re-

ported a spokeswoman for train-

er Peter Chapple-Hyam. The other

cross-Channel raiders are John

Gosden's pair Conon Falls and Per-

fect Paradigm sod Barry Hills's

York winner The Fly, who is also entered in the Epsom Derby.

Rangers reveal **European plans**

Football

Rangers yesterday unveiled the blueprint drafted to prepare the perennial Scottish champions for the expected advent of a Euro-

pean League by the year 2000. Their manager Walter Smith and his assistant, Archie Knox, have signed three-year extensions to their Ibrox contracts. Smith has also recruited the Dane Tommy Moller-Nielsen, the 34-year-old son of the former Danish international manager Richard, as first-team

coach to replace Davie Dodds. The chairman, David Murray, revealed the backroom appointment is just the start of a summer signing spree which will include a new training facility and, possibly, no fewer than nine new players by July.

Murray confirmed his desire to consign "nioe-in-a-row" 10 the history books, saying he and Smith had resorted to "shorttermism" in recent seasons in order to equal Celtic's cherished record of nine successive Scot-

Now they crave making a bigger impact on Europe - even though they must walk a qualifying round tightrope for the Champions' League in July. Failure would mean an exit before the Premier Division has begun.

Asked if he expects a European League to run alongside domestic football within the next three years, Murray said: It is happening already. It is

called the Champions' League.

"I've said repeatedly that by
the year 2000 we will have all three European trophies comhined into one. It is starting to

United in hunt for Desailly

ALAN NIXON

Manchester United have entered the race for Milan's powerful defender Marcel Desailly. The Frenchman is considering a move and sources in Italy claim his representatives have spoken to United and Barcelona. -

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, sees Desailly as a replacement for the injury trouhled Gary Pallister. Desailly is to decide on his next move in the next fortnight and has also to receive final contract offers from favour as they plan to conclude

the chase for Juninho shortly. The signs are that Atletico Madrid will offer in excess of £10m for the Brazilian, a figure United may match, leaving the final decision to the player. If Juninho goes ahroad, Ferguson will step up his push for Desailly.

Eyal Berkovitch is planning to leave Southampton following Graeme Souness's departure and is to have talks with West Ham and Crystal Palace.

Franz Beckenbauer, Germany's former coach and captain, has made a fierce attack on England for running a rival bid against Germany to host the 2006 World Cup. "The English have left us in the lurch. We ex--pected the English to support us. This has got nothing to do with English fair play," he said yesterday. "The English themselves are OK, but the Football

Association has to look at

whether it is in order." Following Beckenhauer's outburst, Berti Vogts, the Germany coach, called on England to withdraw their hid, saying "If I was the Prime Minister of Britain I would tell the FA to withdraw. If they have any character they will-pull out. All the countries in Europe think that."

Everton have moved closer to leaving Goodison Park after supporters voted overwhelmingly in favour of moving to a new 60,000 all-seat stadium. The club ran a poll in the

both clubs, which is in United's match programme on the final day of the season asking supporters whether they would consider a move to a new stadium on the outskirts of Liverpool. Almost 84 per cent of the 21,974 fans who replied said that they were in favour of chairman Peter Johnson's plans for the new Stadium.

Wolves will block any move from Reading to talk their assistant manager, Colin Lee, about a return to Elm Park to take the vacant manager's job. Lee said: "I have assured the club that I will do things properly and not walk out. Unless I am given permission to talk to Reading I will be staying with Wolves."

The Stoke goalkeeper, Mark Prudhoe, has turned down a footballer on earth"? That will new deal hecause he is fed up cost you £50m, plus, of course, waiting for the club to name a new manager. Grimsby and Plymouth are both keen to secure his signature.

happen already. We must be ready for that. It is all very well saying we are a hig club. It is quite another going and doing it. We all know what is required.

"I do believe the parochial elcment of 'nine-in-a-row' has held us back over the past couple of seasons. Ten-in-a-row will take care of itself. We'll either win it or we won't but dramatic change has to come.

Rangers have spent £50m over the past eight years to redevelop Ibrox into a futuristic 50,000 all-seat stadium, but now the emphasis is on changing the playing staff. Richard Gough and David Robertson have gone and Smith has already lined up the Swedish international midfielder Jonas Thern from Roma, the Australian full-back Tony Vidmar from NAC Breda and the German goalkeeper Georg Koch from Düsseldorf.

More will surely follow with Rangers having confirmed their interest in Internazionale's defenders Massimo Paganin and Alessandro Pistone, Roy Hodgson's departure from Inter is delaying decisions on their futures.

But Murray will not splash hig-money fees on people like Paul Ince and Kennet Andersson who are, at 30, deemed too old for the Ibrox vision. Paul Gascoigne, though, could be part of the future - if he accepts an offer to stay,

"We admit that in the past we have gone for the quick fix in the transfer market," said Murray. "Now we are putting the hulding blocks in place by signing players of the right age on four to five-year contracts. We could have as many as nine new players by the start of the season.

"We need to do it. We were vulnerable there for a few months last season but shrewd club side in the world. management and extra effort from a couple of players saw us through." Smith's deal confirms he is in

first arriving 11 years ago to become assistant to Graeme Souness. Knox joined from Manchester United in 1991 to become Smith's No 2.

Want to buy "the finest young

the small matter of his annual

A number of clubs were in-

terested in signing the 20-year-

salary of £2.5m upwards.

ELIZABETH NASH

reports from Madrid



Juventus chase unique hat-trick

Juventus, who have just secured the Italian title to add to the World Club Cup and European Supercup, could crown their centenary year with the most sought-after club prize of all tonight by winning the European Cup in Munich.

No Italian team has won a similar grand slam in one season, and for Marcello Lippi's side to do that against Borussia Dorumund would simply confirm what is already beyond any doubt - that Juventus are currently the best Victory would totally vindicate

Lippi's decision last year to jettison the heart of the team which had beaten Aiax on penalties to with the bricks at Ibrox, after become European champions for the first time in 11 years only a few weeks previously.

Within a week of that final Gianluca Vialli had left for Ajax defender Frank de Boer to Chelsea, and soon afterwards say: "I have no doubt Juventus if unspectacular progress to the attend at Uefa's invitation.

the superlative description from

the chib's coach. Bobby Robson.

but vesterday he and his advis-

ers agreed a new contract with

the Spanish club that runs until

2006. It has a starting salary of

500m ptas (£2.5m) a year, which

is twice his current wage and will

rise in line with the retail prices.

Fabrizio Ravanelli had followed him to England and a season of unstinting drama at Middlesbrough. The defenders Pietro Vierchowod and Paulo Sousa ironically sold to Borussia were gone soon after that. In their place came the Croat Alen Boksic, Uruguay's Paolo Montero, the Frenchman Zinedine Zidane and two Italians, Christian Vieri and Nicola

Amoruso. A real indication of how far Juventus have progressed came in the semi-final of this season's an unsatisfying victory on penalties. Last month Juventus beat Ajax 2-1 away and 4-1 at home, a defeat that prompted the

Ronaldo agrees improved contract with Barcelona

old Ronaldo Barcelona's day. Ronaldo can expect to earn, three Brazilian representatives.

zling Brazilian who attracted 800m ptas a year (£4m) by 2005. who will take a 10 per cent cut.

too, is index linked.

The contract contains an es-

The announcement of the

contract by the Barca president.

Josep Nuñez, concluded two

a team from another planet." There have been other examples of Juve's devastating

will win in Munich. They are like

criss-cross attacking play this season. At the start of the year they demolished Paris St-Germain 9-2 on aggregate in the European Supercup, which included a 6-1 away win in Paris. Then on 6 April came an unprecedented 6-1 win over Milan - in Milan. It was Milan's heaviest defeat in their 98-year history and, if nothing else had

been achieved this season, that competition against Ajax. In last result would have been enough. season's final Juventus out-played Ajax hut could only start as overwhelming favourites draw 1-1 and had to settle for to defeat Dortmund and retain the trophy, they are taking absolutely nothing for granted against a squad containing five former Juve players.

Dortmund have made steady

European Footballer of the Year Matthias Sammer and experienced internationals Jürgen Kohler, Stefan Reuter, Andreas Möller, Stephane Chapuisat of Switzerland and Karlheinz Riedle in their squad.

they will be no pushovers. Juneatus (from): Penuza Ferrara, Torricelli, Monteru, Pomna, Iuliano, Pessotia; Di Livo, Conia, Deschamps, Jugavic, Lombardo, Tacchinardi, Zidane; Boksic, Del Piero, Padovano, Vieri, Amoruso, Trotta.
Borussia Dortsmand (from): Klos; Schneider, Sommer, Kobier, Free, Felersinger, Pedersand, Ranhardt, Freund, Zont, Reuter, Möller, Lambert, Hermich, Paulo Soussa, Tretschok, Chapussat, Hermich, Redele, Roken, Tanko. ez, Herrich, Riedle, Ricken, Tanko Manchester United will he

represented at the European Cup final tomorrow night by the eight survivors of the Munich air crash in 1958. Bobby Charlton, Jackie Blanchflower, Bill Foulkes, Harry Gregg, Kenny Morgan, Albert Scanlon, Dennis Viollet and Ray Wood will

season, putting Barca within two

points of the league leaders.

their arch-rivals Real Madrid,

and helped the club to win the

European Cup-Winners' Cup.

seek extra sponsorship money

to help defray the cost of keep-

ing Ronaldo, who also has a

Ronaldo bas scored a record £1m a year contract with Nike

Nunez conceded the need to

The deal makes 20-year-old

renegotiate it in two years'

time," Nuñez said, "because my

heart couldn't stand the strain."

LEICESTER

days of talks with the player's 34 goals in the Spanish league this to wear their boots.

NUMBER

9m

off the value of Sheffield Unit ed shares - a fatt of 31 pe cent - when the Stock Exchange opened yesterday, follosing the First Division playoff final on Monday.

Athletics

Denise Lewis, the only British woman to win a medal at the Olympics test year, will prepare for the World Chempionships by competing in the Götzis invitational by Campeting in the Section 1. May 1. June. The Wolvern Atlanta, finished second to the world year's invitational with a British record 6,645 points.

Bany Thomas, Bitteln's 1996 No 1 from Sheffield, has been selected to com-pete in the VI International Decathlon-Heptation in Almenne, Spein, at the end of the month. Thomas is joined in the Great Britain and Northern Ireland tram by the world junor silver medalist, Desp Macey, of Old Gaytonians, and Wakefield's Kerry Jury.

Badeliston

4: C Martin (Den) bt D Marro (Sp) 11-1 11-0: M Soversen (Den) bt M Pohar (Sloven) 11-1 11-0: Chen Ya-Lin (Ra) bt E Noodran (Mr) 10-12 11-11-13-14-0; S Susanti (Indon) bt Ng Chin Hill) 11-3 11-0; S Susanti (Indon) bt Ng Chin Hill) 11-4 11-1; Meahansti (Indon) bt Ng Chin Hill) 11-5 11-6; Hen Jingto (Ch) bt M Bishn (Inh) 11-5 11-6; Zeng Yaqong (Ch) bt M Bishn (Inh) 11-5 11-6; Zeng Yaqong (Ch) bt M Bishn (Inh) 11-16; Nan Ji-Iyan (S Nor) bt D Jahen (Can) 11-8 11-6; Nan Ji-Iyan (S Nor) bt C Sayad (F) 11-0 11-4; M Tanaha Lispen) bt M Hoogland (Meth) 11-9 11-4.

Bass-Objall

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 3 Milvaudee 2: Derout 6 Araham 0; Bettimore 8 Neer York Yenizete
6; Celdand 2 Meness City 1 (11 innegs); Seut6; Celdand 2 Meness City 1 (11 innegs); Seut6; 13 Milvanessite 8; Celveland 10 Chicago WhiteSox 4; Tortomo 8 Tesse: 1.

MATRONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 2 Pittsburgh
1: Colorado 9 St Lous 7; San Panessoc 4 Houspon 3: Cenomati 8 Pittadelphia 5 Minst game);
Cerconeti 8 Pittadelphia 4 (second game); NewYork Mets 4 Montreel 3; Los Anglese 5 Piorita 3;
Atlanta 11 San Diego 5.

EXCHAIS CROWN GREEN EVENT (Websico, Blackpool) Tales-risead winners: TD Tools (Of-ferton), J Barker (Vendel), A Herward (Histoin Benk), I. Fizzasamico (Leigh), L Saith (Warng, Ton), J Edwards (Bernerghern), J Bradley (Stafford), J Plantek (Fensioontes)

(Seeded players in capitals)

(Seeded players in capitals)
Ments aingles, first round: R RRARCEK (Neth) bis Draper (Aus) 7-6 6-2 6-1; M Gustafsson (Swe) bt G WANISEVIC (Croa) 4-6 6-3 7-6 6-3; M CHANG (US) bit R Gilbert (Fr) 6-2 6-3 6-2; C Costa (Sp) bt O Flach (US) 6-4 6-0 6-1; A Costa (Sp) bt A Voinea (Rom) 6-4 7-5 6-4; G Blanco (Sp) bt N Godwin (SA) 6-3 6-2 1-6 7-5; A Pawel (Rom) bit A O'Brien (US) 6-4 7-5 6-0; F MAN-TILLA (Sp) bt R Fromberg (Aus) 6-3 6-2 6-2; B Black (Zm) bt F Squillari (Arg) 1-6 6-3 6-3; S BRUGUISTA (Sp) bt J Van Herck (Bel) 6-3 0-8 6-2 6-0; J Krocsko (Hum) bt J Krosiak (Slovalk) 7-6 6-3 4-6 7-8; O Van Scheppingen (Neth) bt P Hearhuis (Neth) 6-2

(Fi) bt A Clement (Fi) 6-1 6-2 6-3; Stolle (Aus) bt R Furlan (II) 7-5 6-1 4-6-3; S Simian (Fi) bt G Schaller (Aut) 2-6 6-4 4-6 6-4 6-2; A Boetsch (Fi) bt K Kucera (Slovak) 6-1 6-1 6-4;

SPORTING DIGEST Cricket

Cricket

RED STRIFE CUP (Final day of four): Bridgetown: Berbooks 258 and 150 (P A Weddec 53;
CA Weish 6-39); Jernaica 252 and 157 for 2 ft
G Sammunds 90ns, J C Adams 50nd), Jernaica
won by 8 wickers. St George's, Grenarde: Windwerd Beneds 448 and 177 for 9 dec J A R Sylvature
54; R D King 5-43, M V Abgemonto 4-677;
Gayern 315 and 125 for 8 (T Dowler 30), M Morgen 3-42). Match drawes.
MONDAYS LAKE #855ULTS: Minor Counciles
Championship (Firmt day of two); Sidmouth: Devon 210, and 256 for 6 (1 Pugh 87, N A Folland
59, S R Benetic 4-68); Weise 180 for 7 and 288
for 7 /P D North 53), Whites bt Dever 2 by three
valciants. (Shartharms 6chool): Doner 105 and
90 (N V Robotor 6-50. K. E Cooper 4-30); Horrbrighting 227 for 4. Herreforthalle by Dones by
an investigation of 32 runs. Assame Cambested 194
for 8 and 21.5 for 3 of J Fernand 4-651; Bestfordsite 178 for 3 and 259 for 7 (4) Thott 54.

Lariers 52. Combastand dewr with Bestfordshire.
Slearford-Herripotchine 278 for 2 and 305 for 5
Slearford-Herripotchine 278 for 2 and 305 for 5

The former Scotland defender Brian hvine, 32, has joined Dundee on a free transfer from Aberdeen.

H Dreekmann (Ger) 6-3 6-4 6-2.

Women's singles, first round: N
Ziersva (Bela) bt Meilen Tu (US) 6-3
3-6 6-4; S Testud (Fr) bt Park Sunghee (S Kor) 6-0 6-4; F Labat (Arg) bt
K Boogert (Neth) 7-5 6-0; S Pitkowski (Fr) bt F Lubiant (It) 7-6 6-2; A
SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) bt K Lagleniak (Fr) 6-0 6-2; M HINGIS (Swit) bt
H Nazyova (Slovak) 6-0 6-2; A Man-

The former Dutch international goal-keeper Stanley Merizo has left the Bel-gian champions, Lierse, to join the French club, Bordeaux.

The struggling German Bundeslige club Hamburg have named Frank Pagelsdorf, from Hansa Rostock, as their new coach in succession to Felix Magath. The French First Division club Cannes yesterday dismissed their coach, Guy Lacombe, because of poor results. Cannes finished 15th in the league. TOULON UNDER-21 TOURNAMENT: Colombia 2

MOVENY'S JAIE RESULTS: Spunish Leegan: Velencia 1 Real Bots 3. Portugoses Leegans Sporing D Estrela de Antadora D. POLAND SQUIAD (World Cup qualifier v Eng-land, Choczow, Saturday): Gosticespent Wos-niak (Porto), Szamuntalaid (Lega Westen), Cayastio (Lech Pozren), Defendors: Waldoch (V.B. Schurn, Zelfend (Lega Westen), Sitzypeis (Lega Westen), Ledeno (SSS Katowck), Sitzypeis (Lega Westen), Ledeno (SS Katowck), Baik (Lyon, Middleiters: Novemb (195) (1800 Muntch), Selez-loratid (Jeste Westen), Malade Middrow Jorts (Lega Westen), Malade Middrow (Lega Westen), Malad

L Neiland (Lat) bt A-G Sidot (Fr) 6-2 7-5; F Perfetti (It) bt N Miyagi (Japan) 7-62-66-0; S GRAF (Ger) bt P Suarez

(Arg. 6-1 6-4; J NOVOTNA (Cz Rep.) bt C Torrens-Valero (Sp.) 6-3 6-2; M J FERNANDEZ (US) bt L McNeil (US)

J FERNANDEZ (US) bt L McNeii (US) 6-2 6-3; B SCHULIZ-MCCARTHY (Neth) bt L Cenkova (Cz Rep) 6-3 7-5; K HABSUDOVA (Slovek) bt O Barabanschikove (Bela) 6-3 6-3; Y Yoshlda (Japan) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-2 6-4; Al Sugiyama (Japan) bt E Wagner (Ger) 5-7 6-4 6-1; E Makarova (Rus) bt A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) 6-4 6-2; L Ghirardi-Rubbi (Fr) bt M Oremans (Neth) 2-6 6-2 6-3; E Likhovt

mens (Neth) 2-6 6-2 6-3; E Likhovt-seva (Rus) bt L Nemeckova (Cz Rep) 6-4 6-3; N Tauziat (Fr) bt R Simpson

(Can) 6-3 6-2; V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) bt A Montolio (Sp) 6-0 6-0; A Gross-man (US) bt A Gersi (Cz Rep) 6-3 6-0;

S Cecchmi (it) bt M Endo (Japan) 7-6 7-6; J Kandarr (Ger) bt G Leon Gar-

ner (Aut) 6-2 1-6 6-0.

FRENCH OPEN RESULTS 2-6 1-6 6-2 6-4; A Volkov (Rus) at 0
Nestor (Can) 6-1 6-13-6 6-2; M Ondrusiae (SA) bt M Pastura (Arg) 7-6 6-2
6-1; M Larsson (Swe) bt J Courier (US)
6-1 6-2 4-6 1-6 6-4; M RIOS (Chile) bt W Black (Zim) 6-4 5-7 4-6 6-2 6-1; C MOYA (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 6-3 6-7
5-7 6-3 6-3; O Nomman (Bel) bt S Sargisian (Arm) 6-2 7-5 6-3; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt N Nulti (Swe) 6-2 4-6
3-6 6-4 6-4; T Woodbridge (Aus) bt K Carlsen (Den) 7-6 4-6 6-4 6-0; C Woodruff (US) bt O Vacek (Cz Rep) 6-4
6-2 6-3; N Lapentii (Ecu) bt F Festerien (Den) 6-4 6-1 6-2; H Arazi (Mor) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 6-3 6-4 6-2.

MALI'A SQUAD (Friendly v Scotland, Vallette, Standary): Goaltoeperts: Barry (Sterna Wanderers), R Debono (Nooser Lorse), Museaut (Riberters), R Debono (Nooser Lorse), Museaut (Riberters), Debono (Nooser Lorse), Debono (Naletta, Radio (Ribitata Lucol), Rigido (Naletta), Grime (Pets Hotsparts: Said (Forisco, Veilla Bibernars), Middielderse Brincett (Forasse), Epsinyse (Bristicara Lucol), Cavallieri (Harman Spergans), Saillas (Valetta), Sudad (Sterna Wenderers), Saillas (Valetta), Cavardieri (Harman Gergans), Saillas (Valetta), Cavardieri (Harman (Bristicara Lucol), Zavardi (Valetta), Zavardieri (Harman (Bristicara Valetta), Zavardieri (Harman (Bristicara Valetta), Zavardieri (Harmans), Malifa (Sterna Wanderers), Saillas (Sterna Wanderers)

Handball WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Gumemoto, Japon): belend 32 Norway 28; Soen 31 Crostin 25; South Korea 37 Yugodawa 33; Egynt 24 Cuba 20; Rus-say 20 Temes 14 (12-5); Fance 22 Japon 23 (11-11); Sweden 32 Lithuania 20 (18-9); Hun-

lee hockey NHL Stanley Cup Play-offs: Western Conference finals: Detrot 3 Coloquio 1 (Detrot wirs best-of-swen series 4-2, advances to Stanley Cup thola against Philadelphia Ryes).

Motorcycling Colin Gable, of Leicester, died on Mon

coun cable, or lencester, died on workey during the opening practice day for this year's tale of Man TT races which start on Saturday. The 28-year-old design engineer from Ravenstone crashed heavily on the Ballagery section of the 37.73 miles Mountain Course. Gable is the 169th competition to die in the Obvern history of the event. 90-year history of the event.

Regiby Union TOUR MATCH (Alberty, NZ): NZ Assidenty 74 ke land Development 7V 15.

SaiHng
Swedish Match, the Whitbread 60 competitor sloppered by Gunnar Krantz, yesterday was forced to abandon plans to complete a planned passage from Boston to Guernsey because of severa weather conditions. It had successful-Chris Bonar's Bateleur, the winner of Class 1, was awarded the Rover Tro-

phy as top yacht of the 235 contest-ing the Clyde Cruising Club's Scottish Series in Tarbert.

MEN'S WORLD CUP (Athens, Gr) First round: United States 10 Spain 7.

2.30: 1. WOLF MOUNTAIN (Dane O'Neil)
2-1; 2. Imror. 21-8 fav; 3. Soviet Leader 9-2.
4 zan, nk, 5. (R Hornon, East Exertegit). Totace
2.3-50. Dual Forecast: £2.10. Computer
Straight Forecast: £4.60.
3.00: 1. WHO NOSE (R Hannon) 9-4; 2.
The Honorable Lady 7-4 fav; 3. Zig Zag 2-1.
5 rato, 1¼, 5. (B Meehen, Lambourn). Totac
£2.20; £1.30. £1.10. Dir. £3.80. CSF:
£8.13. Non Purpus Spring Syde

cape clause. Barcelona think Ronaldo football's biggest earn-that if a club offered £50m, er. "I hope this contract lasts its

Ronaldo could go, but that fee, term, and we won't have to

22.0; 21.30; 21.10. DF: 23.50. GF: 66.13. Non Runner Spping Soda.

3.30: 1. FAITHFUL SON () Reid) 8-13 fav.

2. Za-lm 4-1; 3. Royal Aty 6-1. 6 ran. 3,

3. (M. Stoute, Newmarket). Totas £1.60: £1.10, £1.50. DF: £2.10. CSF: £2.90. 4.00: 1. PRINCESS DANIELLE (J Red 5-1 j. lav; 2. Sendmoor Denim 6-1; 3. Calendala 16-1; 4. Snowy Mantle 14-1. 18 ran. 5-1 figs Nota. rk, sh-hd. (W Mur. Lumbourn). Tota: £6.60; £1.10, £3.10, £3.10, £4.60.

> Tric: £346,50; £258,69 carried forward to Yarmouth 3.45 today. 4.30: 1. JANGLYNYVE (L Dettor) 13-8 fav: 2. Princess Of Hearts 7-2: 2. Soura 7-1. 2 ran. nd. 4, IS Woods, Navmarketh, Totas 51.70; £1.10, £2.10, £2.20, DF: £2.60, CSF: £5.89.

DF: £24.80, CSF: £46.22, Tricast: £648.63

£5.89.

5.00; 1. SCARROTS (S Drowne) 11-1; 2. Mystic Quest 3-1 fav; 3. Persian Blue 7-1, 12 ran, nk, sht-hd. (S Wilsons, Newmarket). Tote: £10.40; £2.10, £1.60, £2.40. DF: £27.40. CSF; £41.27. Totest: £237.04. This: £88.10. NR: Greenwith Fore.a Placepot: £37.00. Quadpot: £5.40. Place 5: £6.98. REDÇAR

2.15: 1. BEHOLD (D Hamson) 5-1; 2. Payman 6-1; 3. Steep Cracker 2-1 fau, 11 ren. 1, hd. (J Fanstrawe, Newmarket). Tota: 58.20: 52.20, 12.20, 51.20. DF: £15.90. CSF: £36.01. Tric: £8.80. 2.45: 1. AFAAN (Mrs M Morrs) 7-2 fav; 2.45: 1. AFAAN (Mrs M Morrs) 7-2 fav; 2. Gay Breezze 6-1; 3. High Spirita 12-1; 4. Priory Garden 25-1. 25 ran. 2½, 1. (R Marvin, Doncester). Tota: £5.80; £1.70, £2.30, £2.40, £30.30. DF: £10.80. CSF: £20.26. Tricast: £236.60. Tricr £26.50, MR:

8.15: 1. BLESSINGINDISQUISE Charrocky 11-2: 2. Moon Strike 9-1; 3. Antarctic Storer 100-1, 13 ran. 5-2 fev For The Present, V., 1%. M W Essenby, Sheriff Hutton), Total: £5.20; £2.20, £2.10, £12.50. DF: £33.00. CSF: £52.15. Tricest: £4.279.03. Tric: £476.40; £536.84 carried forward to

Yarmouth 3.45 today. 3.45; 1. AURELIAN (M Fenton) 10-1; 2. Alagna 2-1 (av; 3. Monarch's Pursuit 6-1.

RACING RESULTS

4.15; 1. HEART OF GOLD (W Ryan) 5-1; 2, Klondike Charge 7-4 fav, 3, Dencing Queen 9-2, 10 ran. 24, 7, Mvs S Hal, Mrdeherm). Tote: £5.70; £1.30, £1.60, £1.80. DF: £7.10, CSF; £14.50, Tno: £13.50. 4.45: 1. WEETMAN'S WEIGH (F Lynch) 3-1; 2. Quilting 11-4 (a; 3. Toujours Riviera 11-2 7 ran. 1, 2. (R Hollinshead, Upper Longdon). Tota: £3.30; £2.00, £1.80. DF: £5.00. CSF:

5.15: 1. DISPOIL GEM (K Darley) 10-1: 2. Nobby Bernes 12-1: 3. Habeta 8-1: 4. Spanish Verdict 10-1: 16 ram, 9-2 fav Rasel. 1/s. 1/s. (P Caher, Ripori, Tobe: £11.30; £2.10, £2.00, £2.70, £2.90, DF: £78.00, CSF: £127,45. Theast: £991,39. Trio: £620.20. Jackpot: Not wort: £34,557.17 carried for-ward to Folkestons today. Place 6: £48.17. Place 5: £30.21.

SANDOWN

6.20: 1. LA MODISTE (X Falion) 3-1 fav; 2. Philister 14-1: 3. Al Abraq 7-1. 12 ran. 3/s, hd. (Mes Gay Refewel). Tobe: £3.30; £1.60, £3.60, £2.70. DF: £19.00. CSF: £40.34.Trio: £83.70. NR: Merculess Cop. 6.50: 1. PROTOCOL (R Hite) 13-2; 2. Mediame Chitmery 5-1; 3. Top Shelf 12-1. 6 ren. 11-4 Sar Valegniore (4th). nh., 4. (J Hits). Totac £5.90; £1.80, £1.90, £2.80. DF: £14.80, CSF: £34.67. Tricast: £344.58. Trici £61.80. NRs: Ibin St. James, Mystic Ridge. After a stewards' inquiry, the result stood.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

Rugby Union TOUR MATCH: Border v British Lions (2.15) (at East London, South Africa).

ELITE LEAGUE: King's Lymn v (pswich (7.45); Poole v Eastbourne (7.30). PREMIER LEAGUE KNOCK-OUT CUP: Long Eaton v Arena Essex (7.45). PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull v Exeter (7.30).

Other sports BADMINTON: World Crumpionships (Glasgout).

Lynda Ramsden has lodged an appeal against the disqualifica-tion of Epic Stand at Newcastle last Thursday, the Sandhutton trainer's husband Jack confirmed last night. * THE INDEPENDENT 981 982 983

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES YARMOUTH 9 FOLKESTONE CARTMEL NEWBURY (E) 985 RIPON (E) 976 986 Calls cost Step per metals. T.L.S., pk., Scretton St RC2A 4P7



Gascoigne lift does not offset loss of Adams

GLENN MOORE

Football Correspondent

There was a time when Paul Gascoigne would have been distraught at the thought of Tony Adams missing his birthday party, such a noted liquid trencberman would have been a valuable addition.

Things have changed, hopefully permanently for Adams, probably temporarily for Gascoigne, and Gazza's disappointment at Adams missing drawn from this rapid response.

last night's 30th birthday bash It confirms the seriousness of an was as a footballer and a friend, not a fellow tropler.

welcome present with the news that his calf, though fattened by Linda Buthelezei's attentions, was probably recovering quickly enough to allow him to play against Poland on Saturday, Adams will not be there. He failed a fitness test on his trouhlesome ankle and was sent

home to rest for the summer. There are two thoughts to be

injury which, if aggravated, could threaten Adams' career just as While Gazza was given a it is enjoying an Indian summer. cloome present with the news That Hoddle should still have given the Arsenal skipper this long to try and prove his fitness reveals England's need of him.

> perience, and few meet those requirements as well as Adams. One who comes close is Paul Ince and Hoddle was thus perturbed to discover that the In-

> ternazionale midfielder picked

Saturday's match will require

men of bravery, ability and ex-

up a knee injury playing against Napoli at the weekend. He is not ruled out, but is a doubt.

With one captain out, and an-other doubtful, Hoddle was relieved that Gascoigne, an inspirer if not a leader of men, was recovering. Indeed, Gas-coigne felt so jovial be was even prepared to share 20 minutes of his birthday with the birthday with the press.

Not that he was in generous mood. The press, he said, could force him into retirement and had been responsible for him ceasing to enjoy the game.

my needing to be in love with the game and I agree. I was just turning up, wanting to win and get the 90 minutes over. I was not enjoying it because the would say no." press never gave me a chance. I was always getting hammered.

"I used to go on the pitch worrying about having to do this comment. "If I keep getting or that - beat three men, score Now I get slaughtered, however I play, so I may as well go out and enjoy it. I started enjoying the game with the testimonial

"Glenn Hoddle talked about" matches I played. I asked David by needing to be in love with Busst if I could play in his. I have enjoyed my career, if someone said would you turn the clock back 10 years if you could' I

For one who claims not to read the papers any more, Gascoigne seemed aware of recent critical hammered I might retire. I'll play a goal - or I'd be slaughtered.

As long as I'm happy, when I think

Twe had enough I'll do what's best for me," he added.

It has been suggested Gascoigne might retire after the

World Cup, when he will be 31, but he would not be drawn. As to his Rangers' contract, he said: "I have a year to go. I have told them I am concentrating on England. We will talk about it when I get back but they want

Returning to his main theme, Gascoigne added: "A lot of players do things outside football but none of them get photographers up their arse, hassling their wife and blinding their kids with flashguns."

Gascoigne bas a justified

point but be is not alone, David Beckham was clandestinely pic-tured with his girlfriend, Victoria (Posb Spice), in the tabloids yesterday. And Beckham did not sell his wedding pictures to Hello! or take part in a self-publicising fly-on-the-wall

documentary.

And the birthday? Gascoigne's only comment, in ref-erence to last year's high jinks in Hong Kong, was: "Tve had my teeth done, so I won't need the dentist's chair."

More football, page 27

Henman spurns a winning position

Tennis

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Roland Garros

Aithough one game alone lasted longer than it takes to thread all those heads in Venus Williams's hair, Tim Henman's adventure on the clay courts of the French Open was as hrief as most obervers feared.

Henman and Jim Courier were among those who depart-ed the championships yesterday, both having lost in five sets in the opening round. Henman was the No 14 seed, Courier an unseeded twice former cham-

Their respective status underlines how much progress Henman has made in a short time - the British No 1 was defeated by Courier in the final of the ATP Tour event in Qatar at the beginning of the year - but their results had a similar hollow ring.

Goran Ivanisevic, the No 4 his defeat by Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3, was ately broke back for 1-1. mother example of the Croat's propensity for handicapping his

talent with confused tactics. Courier, a winner at the Stade Roland Garros here in 1991 and 1992, had hoped his form on clay courts en route to Paris would lead to an improvement on his recent Grand Slam record. But defeat by Sweden's Magnus Larsson, 6-1, 6-2, 4-6, 1-6, 6-4, means that the

appointment stemmed from the fact that he seemed to have the beating of his French opwon, 6-2, 2-6, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.

far more confident than Delaître. In fact, Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, a first-round loser in five sets on Monday, de-4-1 in the third set. "Trust me

the next game, as Henman's serve was put under severe pressure by both his opponent and himself. They duelled through 13 deuces, Henman saving five break points but unable to convert any of eight game points double-faulting to squander one - before being lobbed by Delaitre on the sixth break point. The Frenchman went on to

cided to leave the match and prepare for his return to London when Henman was leading this is over," Rusedski said, "C'est fini." Delaitre did not think so, broke Henman's serve in the

first round of two of his last three major championships. In Henman's case, the dis-

ponent, Olivier Delaître, only to fade in what proved to be the two most crucial games of the contest, Delaître, a wild card en-try ranked No 143 in the world, Having recovered after losing the opening set to lead by two sets to one, Henman looked

demonstrating that be was not as discouraged as he looked. He opening game of the fourth set. seed, also joined the exodus, but and was not put off when the 22year-old from Oxford immedi-

American has now lost in the level the match, but then



Duel in the sun: Tim Henman heads for defeat against Olivier Delaitre in the first round of the French Open yesterday

brought further problems on himself by losing the first three points on his serve in the second game of the final set. Henman failed to take advantage, and allowed two further break

points to slip in the same game. Hemman compounded that by double-faulting on break point to lose serve at 4-4, pounding both deliveries long. Delaitre served the match out to love af-

ter three hours and 35 minutes.

It was not long ago that we were bemoaning the fact that British men were unable to gain a place in the main draw of the singles at the French championships, so we should endeavour to be philosophical about the latest results. At least Henman and Rusedski lasted five sets before baving to seek sanctury in English pastures.

Neither player had been able to play enough clay court matches ahead of Paris, chiefly because they are still in the process of rehabilitating after injuries. Henman's elbow, like Rusekdski's wrist, seems to

have survived the test. "My elbow feels a hundred per cent," Henman said. "Having said that, I think it will be interesting to see bow it reacts

tomorrow. That's when I bad the problems in Rome. It felt fine during the match, but next day it was very, very stiff. I do definitely feel that on this occasion there is not going to be such a reaction."

As for his four matches on clay since undergoing surgery to the elbow after losing in his opening match at the Lipton Championships in Florida in March, Henman said: "I haven't bad the best of results, but I wouldn't say I'm greatly surprised. My preparation prohably hasn't been the hest. I want in the future to be feeling comfortable playing on the surface three or four weeks before the French, so then I can improve come this time of each year. That's when I'll he playing my

Martina Hingis and Steffi Graf, seeded to meet in the women's singles final, wasted no time asserting themselves yesterday. The 16-year-old Hing's, playing ber first match sin knee surgery, defeated Hen eta Nagyova, of Slovakia, 6-0 6-2. Graf, the defending champion, eased past Paola Suarez of Argentina 6-1, 6-4.

Photograph: Mike Hewitt/Allsport

THE PERSON

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3310. Wednesday 28 May

I It shows the way to put

Charge for a square, broadheaded nail (6) 10 What proves that blood is

thicker than water? (8,7) 28 Quarts, say, once thought to 11 Bevond doubt, new Conservative rally must have

energy in it (7) 12 In America, overawe expert 1 Trim Norwegian wood (6) with a look (7)

13 Stifling run in contemporary

18 Prior, a wine-maker? (5) 20 Dash on moterway shows 7

has to stop (7)

deep trouble (7) name to correspondence (8) 26 Hating work now, to come 14 out and be shrewd (4,1,5,2,3) 27 Adamites' state in duty mud

prevent intoxication (8)

DOWN Spiky plant very successful

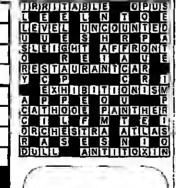
garb (8)

15 Group of fatty compounds 4

Two volumes absorbed in utter comprehension (5) on pole? (9) 6 A French flute arrangement that is melodious (7) A country residence long one such error (8)
23 Umpire, given bad weather, 8 abandoned here in Spain (5) Openers keeping promise in headings? (8)

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Divine dances to support circle of strange people (8)
Amerind providing company over channel from France

16 Make wordplay lightly, but bitingly (9) 17 Top gear of Alice's intended? (8)

days, to make fit once again 21 Standard raised over Dover, for example, in sympathy (7) 22 Spot repair? (6) 24 Outpouring long in Com-

mons, say (5) 25 Dugout reported upside down? That's strong stuff (5)

Gatting relinquishes Middlesex captaincy

nett retires at the end of this

overseen one of the most suc-

same period

1948 49

cesful periods ever seen at Mid-

MIDDLESEX'S
POST-WAR CAPTAINS

R W V Robins

If it is, he will depart having

Cricket Correspondent

Mike Gatting, the longest serv-ing county captain still playing, is to step down from the role he has held at Middlesex since the retirement of Mike Brearley 14 years ago. Gatting will hand the reigns over to his deputy Mark Ramprakash, who will officially take up his new post at Lord's tomorrow when Middlesex play Northamptonshire in the County Championship.

The handover, which was due to take place at the end of the season, comes at a time when Middlesex have made one of their poorest ever starts to a season, one that has included becoming the first county to lose to Ireland in the Benson and Hedges Cup, a competition in which they failed

to win a single match. Gatting however, is no quitter and clearly feels that with the extra demands now made on him as an England selector, Middlesex's interests would be best served by a younger cap-tain appointed sooner rather than later, though David Graveney, England's chairman of selectors, admitted yesterday that Gatting's move was a complete surprise to him.

"It's the end of an era," he said. "I haven't had chance to talk to Mike yet hut he must have a very good reason for what be has done. No doubt I will find out what that is in

Nevertheless his decision to

stand aside now will inevitably

lead to speculation that this

season, despite a playing con-

tract until the end of next year,

F G Mann R W V Robins 1951-52 W J Edrict & D C S Compton W J Edrich J J Warr P 1 Bedford C D Drybrough 1965-67 1968 F.J Titmus & P.H. Perfitt 1969-70 P H Parfitt J M Brearley M W Gatture

M R Ramprakash SEASON SO FAR 1 Apr. Lost to Essex by 1 wid (B&H). 3 Apr. Lost to Glamorgan by 7 runs

5 Apr. Lost to Essex by 66 runs (AXA). 8 Apr. Drew with Sussex (CC). 13 Apr. Lost to Somerset by 27 runs (B&H).

15 Apr. Best Derbyshire by 131 runs 19 Apr. Beat Derbyshire by 4 wids 23 Apr: Lost to Warwicks by 8 wids (CC).

26 Apr. Lost to Warwicks by 108 runs. P W D L Bt Bwi Pts Hodx (7th) 3 1 1 145 12 36

is made coach when Don Ben- fortunate to have both. But al though Gatting's batting and leadership had to compete hard with the incessant jibes about his appetite, he was a shrewd tac tician and an even tougher competitor.

dlesex. Since 1983, the county have won the Championship It was a combination that hrought huge reward when he captained England in Australia three times, both knock-out eups twice and the Sunday League once. It is a record only in 1986-87, when his touring Essex - and they under two capteam trounced the Aussies to retains - can match over the tain the Ashes - the last time England have held them. They say good captains need good teams and Middlesex were

That tour, which included winning the World Series as well as the Perth Challenge, was undoubtedly the crowning mo-ment in an international career otherwise tainted, first by the Shakoor Rana incident, and then by an alleged liaison with

But if the ramifications of the first incident blew over, those from the latter did not and when Ted Dexter appointed Gatting as England captain for the 1989 Ashes series. Ossie Wheatley, the then chairman of the TCCB, vetoed the move and David Gower was appointed instead. The upshot was that this proud and patriotic man decided to go to South Africa and turn his back on a hierarchy be felt had never truly been behind

Mainly, though, be appeared to treat success and failure with cheery equanimity, a charac-teristic that made him popular with players as well as press. It is almost inconceivable that those squeaky instructions. coming as if from the recesses of a rotund pull-string doll, will be heard no more.

Those sounds were associated with success and will be missed by more than those who

MORSE

best clay court tennis.



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may be his last, especially if be

